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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT



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# E.ON ANGER OVER HOO NUKE STORY

"No plans to go nuclear on the Isle of Grain," say bosses

ENERGY giant E.ON has denied reports in a national paper that it plans to build two nuclear power stations on the Hoo peninsula.

Company bosses reacted angrily to a report in The Times yesterday which said the German utility was looking at using its oil-fired power station on the Isle of Grain, and its coal-fired station at Kingsnorth, for new nuclear reac-

### EXCLUSIVE

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

tors. The newspaper said E.ON favours the Isle of Grain as a "stronger candidate" for a nuclear plant because it lies on the coast and is "relatively far" from large population centres.

It was also said to be considering Kingsnorth as a possible site due to the public outcry over plans to build

the UK's first new coal-fired power plant for 20 years there.

But a company spokesman yesterday dismissed the report, and told Yourmedway: "We have no plans whatsoever to build nuclear reactors on these sites."

He said E.ON was committed to building a new oil-fired power station on the Isle of Grain, on which work is under way, and a new generation coal-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



## COP A LOOK AT THESE SHIRTS

The long arm of the law will be extending from polo-style shirts during a three-month trial this summer. Medway officers have been wearing the black zip-up tops since Monday, with PCSOs sporting a blue version.

They were introduced after beat officers asked for more practical shirts to go with the body armour and other equipment they now wear.

Chief Superintendent Jan Stephens said: "After three months we will evaluate the shirts, taking into account our officers' thoughts as well as public opinion."

When police are not involved in front-line duties they will continue to wear the usual white shirt and black tie.

•What do you think of the new uniform? Email your thoughts to [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk).

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**3** Steve Loader casts his expert eye over Toyota's Prius hybrid car. See the motors channel @ Yourkenttv.co.uk

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media

# Tory backing for campaign piles pressure on the cheats

## EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE Conservative party has thrown its weight behind our hard-hitting clampdown on benefit cheats.

Shadow work and pensions secretary Chris Grayling praised this paper's 'Your Money - Your Loss' campaign, which aims to root out the fraudsters who con thousands of pounds from council coffers each year.

Mr Grayling said: "Yourmedway's campaign is a really worthwhile initiative which will help make a difference in tackling benefit fraud across the county."

The Tory frontbencher's comments come weeks after Prime Minister Gordon Brown gave his backing to the scheme.

Mr Brown said: "Everyone who can work must be available for work. We will not tolerate people who are cheating the welfare system and taking money away from people who really need it."

"That is why I congratulate Yourmedway on its campaign to root out the benefit cheats. We now have one million fewer people on out-of-work benefits than in 1997."

"But we need to go further now in training every person still on benefits for the jobs that are available, and working with employers to provide more job opportunities for them."

"But in return for these new opportunities, there will be new responsibilities."



Work and pensions minister James Plaskitt also backed the campaign, saying: "I am all in favour of papers such as Yourmedway getting involved in this. I think it helps get the message across to the small minority of people who think they can get away with fraud."

"It gives the message to the rest of the community that it will not be tolerated."

Mr Plaskitt said the Government's fraud and error department had helped bring a record number of fraudsters to justice, resulting in a dramatic fall in the cost of benefit fraud.

He said: "We are now catching a record number of people. Last year we successfully prosecuted 624 people in Kent."

"Five years ago the total figure lost to the taxpayer was £2.3 billion. Last year that had dropped to £800 million."

Mr Grayling said Labour should be doing more to stem the tide of false payments.

He said: "I am pleased that ministers have also endorsed Yourmedway's campaign, but it is a bit rich coming from a Government that is allowing billions of pounds to be wasted as a result of fraud and payment errors each year."

**•If you know of a benefit cheat, call Medway council's investigations team on 01634 332305 or leave a message on the fraud hotline: 0800 083 7049.**

## yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

### Repairs repay nation's debt to historic castle

ESSENTIAL repairs will be carried out at Upnor Castle thanks to a £250,000 grant co-funded by English Heritage and Medway Council.

Voids in the stonework of the historic castle are being grouted, while the river walls are set to be bolstered with a lime mortar.

English Heritage's Karen Richardson said: "Upnor Castle protected our naval forces against invasion. After nearly 450 years it is time for us to repay that debt."

### Rare Escort Mexico taken in garage raid

A RARE car, which was being painstakingly rebuilt by its owners, has been stolen from a Chatham garage.

The red Mk I Ford Escort Mexico, which has a four-inch black stripe down both sides, is one of only 500 ever built.

It was taken from a garage between Friday, April 18, and Tuesday, May 6, and it is believed a low-loader was used to transport the engineless car.

### Alleyway attack man left with broken jaw

A MAN suffered a broken jaw after being set on by a gang of teenage thugs.

The 37-year-old was attacked in an alleyway between Toronto Road and Sturdee Avenue, Gillingham, on Friday, May 9, at about 10pm.

Five teenagers from Gillingham – two as young as 16 – were arrested in connection with the attack, but released on police bail pending further investigations.

Witnesses are urged to call Medway police station on 01634 792424.

### It would be a crime to miss author's talk

CRIME author HRF Keating will give a talk on his work at Chatham library tomorrow (Thursday) evening.

The writer, famed for his popular Inspector Ghote novels, will also answer questions from fans.

Mr Keating has penned dozens of novels during his writing career, which spans from 1959 to 2001.

The session starts at 7.30pm and is free to attend, however booking is essential. Call the library on 01634 337799 to reserve a place.

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# Life ruined by drug smuggling attempt

## EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

A DRUGS mule arrested after trying to smuggle £175,000 worth of cocaine into the UK from Peru has spent six months in a hell-hole prison without a trial.

Rachel Franklin, 20, originally from Chatham, has been locked away in the dingy jail since November 21, with only the most basic of facilities available to her.

She faces up to 15 years in jail if found guilty of drug smuggling.

A Foreign Office spokesman confirmed they were still in contact with government officials in Peru but a trial date had not yet been fixed.

The troubled backpacker's problems began when she was stopped by police at Lima's Jorge Chavez Airport before boarding a flight to Madrid and then an onward flight to Gatwick Airport.

Officers searched her and found 4.4 kilos of the class 'A' drug in her Winnie the Pooh holdall bag.

Jobless Franklin said she was promised £5,000 by way of payment on arrival in London.

Speaking from her cell she said she "did too little too late" to back out of the foiled drug smuggling operation, after getting cold feet the day before her trip home.

She said: "I had a holiday and was acting like a normal tourist until the last day when I was given drugs to bring back to England."

"Being unemployed, obviously £5,000 is a lot, but at the last minute I decided I didn't want to do it."



**LOCKED UP:** Rachel Franklin, 20, is in a Peruvian prison awaiting trial for drug smuggling although no date has been set

"One of the blokes said I had to because the flights had been booked."

"I feel guilty about not saying no straight away and getting tangled in all this mess. I've got three A levels and wanted to do things with my life and now that's all just ruined."

Franklin said a Peruvian man and several Jamaican men were behind the plot.

She said they told her "to just put the drugs

in my suitcase and not to look paranoid".

Cocaine is an addictive drug which gives users a euphoric sense of happiness and increased energy.

The class A drug is made from coca plants grown and processed in South America, particularly in Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, and smuggled into the US and Europe, where it is sold at huge mark-ups.



**TOGETHER AGAIN:** Kelly Brooke and Billy Zane were at the premiere of Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull in Cannes

## Premiere trip for celeb pair

GLAMOUR girl Kelly Brook and Hollywood hunk Billy Zane showed the world they are back together at a film premiere in Cannes.

The celebrity couple attended the glitzy screening of Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull at the French resort on Sunday.

They stepped out of a car looking happy and relaxed, and walked down the red carpet holding hands tightly.

Strictly Come Dancing star Kelly, 28, originally from Rochester, was all smiles at the launch of the Steven Spielberg film starring Harrison Ford, but she was not wearing an engagement ring.

The actress and model broke off her engagement with the Titanic star, 42, last month and he moved out of their £1 million farmhouse in the village of Grafty Green, near Maidstone.

It was reported last week that the couple spent the night at a London hotel after Zane persuaded her to give their four-year relationship another chance.

At the film premiere in Cannes they said they wanted to take things slowly now they are back together.

## Nuclear plant report denied

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

fired plant at Kingsnorth. The plants at Grain and Kingsnorth are due to be replaced by 2010 and 2013 respectively.

A new, oil-fired combined heat and power plant is already under construction at Grain and a 'clean coal'-fired plant is planned for Kingsnorth, pending approval.

The spokesman stressed that E.ON had not submitted planning applications for nuclear reactors at the sites.

He said: "I cannot tell you what could happen in 20 or 30 years, but we have no plans whatsoever to build nuclear reactors on these sites at this time."

"The oil and coal stations planned will produce power for all of Kent and part of London."

E.ON said last month that it wanted to build two new nuclear reactors in Britain using French technology, but is looking at using existing nuclear sites.

A deadline for nominating proposed nuclear sites has been set for the autumn and public consultation will start next spring.

Steve Dawe, of the Kent Green party, condemned any suggestion of nuclear development, adding: "E.ON does own the land at the Hoo sites and it would be much easier and cheaper for it to build there."

## Sex shop near girls' grammar given go-ahead

A SEX shop selling pornographic films, PVC lingerie and adult toys will open for business near a girls' school after council chiefs approved the controversial application.

The Pillow Talk store will move into a vacant property in the parade of shops in Rainham Road, Chatham - adjacent to Chatham Grammar School for Girls.

Medway Council's licensing team backed the adult chain's application at a meeting on Monday night, despite dozens of objections from the school's head teacher, shopkeepers and residents.

One written complaint said: "These premises are barely 100 metres from the Ash Tree Lane pedestrian entrance to the school, on a route where a significant proportion of our girls walk past."

"I feel this is an entirely inappropriate location for such an establish-

ment and that parents and pupils will find it seedy and upsetting."

A damning circular stated that young schoolgirls would be "at great risk from paedophiles" while another letter of objection argued that the application would turn the area into another "red light district".

Pillow Talk owner Alan Butler dismissed the objections and praised councillors for the handling of his application.

Mr Butler, 60, said: "It's great and I'm really pleased. I think it's a very fair decision and I feel the council handled the meeting superbly."

"There was a lot of protest before the meeting but only four people turned up to object."

"The people who objected said they were worried about paedophiles, but sex shops don't attract them as we don't sell what they want. Schools are much more likely to attract them."

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Police search for boys who broke woman's jaw**

TWO teenage boys are being hunted by police after punching a woman in the face and breaking her jaw.

The assault took place in Rosebery Road, Gillingham, on Friday, April 25, after both youths launched a torrent of verbal abuse at the terrified woman. One of them hit her in the face.

They were described as European, aged 17-18 and short, and had a medium sized sand-coloured dog with them.

Anyone with information should call PC Julie Germaney on 01634 792541.

**Splash about in the sun as the Strand reopens**

INFLATABLE arm bands at the ready – the Strand's swimming pool opens for business this weekend.

The outdoor pool in Gillingham has been refurbished during the winter, with a new drainage system and CCTV cameras, benches and kiosks installed.

The pool will be open from 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 6pm on weekends. During the summer holiday the pool will be open from 10am to 6pm daily.

Entry costs £3.80 for adults, £2.50 for children. Under-threes go free.

**Shopping centre really does invest in people**

HEMPSTEAD Valley Shopping Centre has scooped the Investors in People Standard, given to firms which improve performance and competitiveness through training and development.

Shopping centre manager Mark Rumfitt said: "I'm delighted our 46-strong team has been rewarded for its efforts.

"Investors in People is not about how much you spend on training but more about the culture you can create within an organisation."

**Valley line to enjoy cash boost for improvements**

PASSENGERS travelling between Strood and Paddock Wood are set to benefit from a £5,000 grant.

The Medway Valley Line is eligible to apply for Community Rail Partnerships funding, a new scheme unveiled by rail minister Tom Harris on Friday. The fund finances improvements such as more seating, cycle parking and better information.

Mr Harris said: "This extra funding will support the small projects that can make a big difference to rural routes."

# New super school scheme for Chatham

## Chatham South Medway College merger plan

■ BY JON COATES

PLANS to merge two schools into a state-of-the-art academy have been unveiled by Medway council.

Education chiefs want to turn Chatham South School and Medway Community College into one school, opening across both sites in September 2010.

The academy would move to MCC's Magpie Hall Road premises in Chatham in 2012 or 2013, after a new school development is built.

The plans come just months after schools chiefs gave the go-ahead to merge Temple and Chapter schools in Strood.

Children's services boss Les Wicks said: "The scheme is a win-win situation for pupils and the community, who will benefit from a brand new school with vastly-enhanced facilities.

"This proposal reflects the council's policy to promote the very best facilities for all our pupils, both at secondary and primary level."

The proposal has been backed by both schools' headteachers, despite Chatham South being judged as 'good' by Ofsted inspectors, popular with parents and always over-subscribed.



Picture: SIMON ROBINSON

**FUTURE:** Medway Community College could be merged with Chatham College if council plans are approved

Head Vincent O'Mara said: "The school has been growing in success over a number of years.

"In 2007 we were one of the highest performing high schools in Medway and achieved our best ever results: our performance is of high quality in all areas – academic success, music, art drama and sport. But we are not complacent and we continue to improve.

"We are very excited about being able to offer our successful brand of education in a newly built, state-of-the-art academy.

"Current students and their families should not be afraid of the changes proposed because we will all remain focused on their progress and welfare, as well as planning for the exciting new academy."

MCC's head Andrea Ferris added: "I offer my full support and belief in the academy as a wonderful opportunity for the young people of Chatham.

"I believe there is the potential here to create an absolutely first class, innovative educational environment, with clear paths to further and higher education."

Academies are funded directly by the government and are normally independent of the local authority.

However, Medway council is keen to be fully involved in the new development and proposes to become a co-sponsor of the new school.

The lead sponsor is the Church of England, and the other co-sponsor will be Canterbury Christchurch University.

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## Scarecrows fuse with theatre

A SCOUTING group from the scarecrow Hei People tribe has set up home in Chatham.

Six of the wooden figures have appeared at The Brook Theatre, gazing across Chatham riverside from the historic venue's balcony.

More members of the Hei People tribe will flock to homes-on-high across Medway in the coming weeks, as the countdown to the Fuse Festival launch on Saturday, May 31, continues.

The scarecrows first appeared in Chatham last summer, taking root on the banks of Fort Amherst.

The eerie figures were ripped up and scattered during the visit to Medway, and fared lit-

tle better when they moved on to the Isle of Sheppey. Despite the brutal attacks on his people, Finnish creator Reijo Kela said he was determined to take the tribe abroad again.

The Hei People on The Brook Theatre's balcony will remain for the duration of the festival, while their wooden friends take up different lookouts across Medway.

The 15-day Fuse Festival plays host to a variety of top theatre troupes, cabaret performers and dance groups.

Thanks to generous funding from Arts Council South East England, Fuse tickets start from as low as £2. See [www.fusefestival.org.uk](http://www.fusefestival.org.uk).



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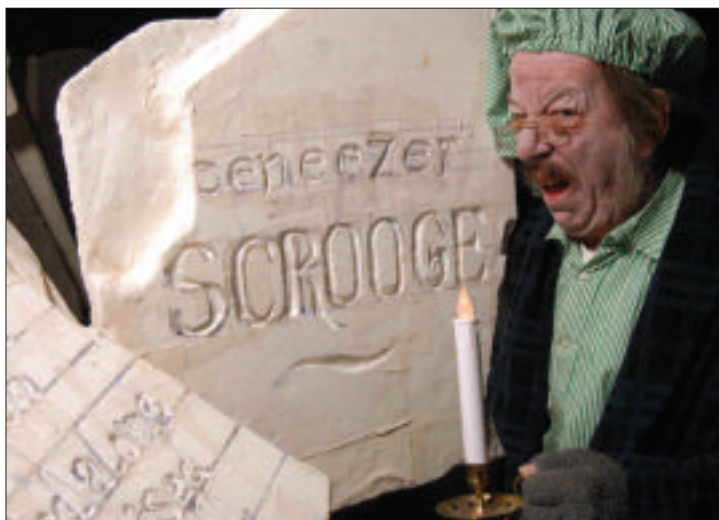
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**CELEBRATION:** Even Ebenezer Scrooge should have something to smile about when Dickens Word turns one

# Birthday celebration is sure to make you want to ask for more

BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE multi-million pound Dickens World attraction will celebrate its first birthday on Sunday with a host of theatre, comedy and opera shows.

Bosses at the popular Charles Dickens-inspired centre have lined up four outstanding events to mark the park's anniversary, starting with a family variety evening on Monday, May 26.

The celebrations come after first-year trading figures showed Fagin, Oliver, Miss Havisham and other Dickens favourites attracted more than 500,000 visitors.

Managing director Kevin Christie said while 'great expectations' of the Victorian-themed attraction were not met, the £62 million venture was performing well.

He said: "It's been a challenge but we've met those challenges and are very pleased with our trading results."

"Our feedback has improved since the opening months. We're now getting between 92 and 95 per cent 'good to great expectations' responses in our voluntary exit card forms. We've got a great, stable business. In the nature of business, we're paying our way but one can always do more."

Of the 500,000 customers who flocked to the Chatham Maritime attraction since it opened in May 2006, more than 85 per cent came from beyond Medway.

The tills were ringing throughout the year, with 16,000 school children and 10,000 adults buying among other items 8,000 Dickens books.

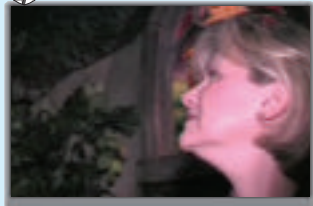
Mr Christie said the park would build on its first year achievements.

He said: "During the next year to 18

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Julie Maddocks visits Dickens World to find out why it helps teachers

months we'll be performance driven. From Monday, July 21, we're going to be running a daily evening show of Oliver as a family add-on during the summer holidays.

"We have a burlesque show planned for Halloween and then before you know it's Christmas again and time for our panto, which will be Dick Whittington this year."

Dickens World features the Great Expectations boat ride, themed around the escape of convict Magwitch, the Haunted House of Ebenezer Scrooge, Newgate Prison and the Britannia Music Hall.

Tickets cost £12.50 for adults, £7.50 for children and £10.50 for students and seniors.

For details see [www.dickensworld.co.uk](http://www.dickensworld.co.uk)

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION EVENTS

### Monday, May 26

Family Variety Show - Take That 2, Girls R Aloud, The National Street Dance Champions and Matthew Crane. Standard seating - adults £15, children £10, family (two adults, two children) £40.

### Friday, May 30

Jongleurs comedy - MC Jeremy O'Donnell, comics Kerry Godliman, Aaron Counter and Adam Crow, and after party with DJ The Marvelous One. Tickets £12, £11 online.

### Saturday, May 31

Oliver! - BADD drama group host a production of Oliver. Tickets cost £8.50 for adults and £6.50 for children and concessions.

### Saturday, June 7

The European Chamber Opera presents Puccini's La Boheme. Tickets, which can include a three course dinner or seating only, are priced from £25. Dickens World also has regular film nights with Indiana Jones new movie tomorrow.

yourmedway

NEWS IN BRIEF

## Dead building is being brought back to life

SPECIALIST craftsmen have begun the painstaking task of restoring Cliffe's Charnel House to its former glory.

The skilled team has already re-pointed two of the walls of the grade two listed weather-beaten building and removed clay roof tiles to assess the timbers hidden beneath.

The small Victorian property, which stands in the corner of St Helen's Churchyard, is set to be officially opened to the public on Saturday, June 28, to coincide with the Cliffe village fair.

Conservation architect James Ford said: "We need specialist crafts people to do work such as this; it is important we respect the heritage of the building and take care that our repair work matches the high standard achieved by the Victorians."

The Charnel House, held together with lime mortar, was once used to store dead bodies retrieved from the banks of the River Thames until they were buried.

Its restoration work has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, which donated £42,000 towards the project.

## Suspected drug dealer arrested in police raid

A GILLINGHAM man has been arrested on suspicion of supplying class A drugs in Kent.

Aaron Manley, 21, of Woodlands Road, was one of 20 suspected drug dealers arrested by Kent police in dawn raids on properties across Dover last week.

Manley and six others have been charged with supplying the drugs, eight more have been charged with conspiracy to supply, while the remaining five have been bailed pending further investigations.

More than 200 police officers were involved in the early morning raids in which drugs, cash and vehicles were seized.

## Smile, you're on camera with the firefighters

FIRE engines across Medway are being fitted with CCTV cameras in a bid to curb the number of attacks on firefighters.

North division operations manager Graham Gash said Medway crews had been the victims of five incidents of anti-social behaviour in the past 15 months.

He said: "The cameras are there for a range of things. It can be used to detect people abusing crews or stealing from fire appliances."

"And it has other roles such as training and assisting with fire investigations - as the scene will be captured on CCTV."

The first camera will be fitted next month.



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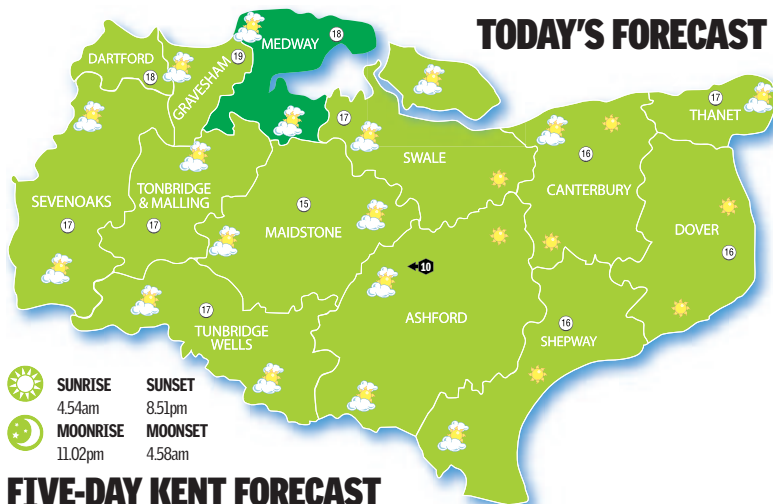


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## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	2:55pm	5.7m
	Sunday	3:26pm	5.6m
Dover	Saturday	1:22pm	6.2m
	Sunday	1:54pm	6.1m
Dungeness	Saturday	1:15pm	7.2m
	Sunday	1:46pm	7.1m
Ramsgate	Saturday	1:52pm	4.7m
	Sunday	2:24pm	4.7m
Sheerness	Saturday	2:45pm	5.5m
	Sunday	3:16pm	5.4m
Whitstable	Saturday	2:52pm	4.9m
	Sunday	3:22pm	4.9m



## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	12°C	Madrid	18°C
Athens	24°C	New York	18°C
Barcelona	18°C	Paris	16°C
Beijing	27°C	Rome	21°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	17°C
Cape Town	27°C	Tenerife	24°C
Cardiff	12°C	Tokyo	23°C
Gibraltar	20°C	Vancouver	20°C
Hong Kong	24°C	Warsaw	11°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	15°C

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	16°C	17°C	18°C	19°C	17°C	Gravesend	15°C	17°C	19°C	20°C	19°C
Canterbury	13°C	15°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	Maidstone	14°C	17°C	19°C	20°C	19°C
Chatham	13°C	14°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	Ramsgate	13°C	15°C	17°C	18°C	18°C
Dartford	15°C	17°C	19°C	20°C	19°C	Rochester	13°C	14°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Dover	14°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	15°C	Sevenoaks	13°C	15°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
Faversham	13°C	14°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	Sittingbourne	13°C	14°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Folkestone	14°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	15°C	Tonbridge	15°C	17°C	19°C	19°C	20°C
Gillingham	13°C	14°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	Tun Wells	15°C	17°C	19°C	19°C	20°C

## yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF



## Drama as birds flock to marshes

RECORD numbers of nightingales and avocets (pictured) are flocking to the North Kent Marshes.

RSPB workers spotted 16 male nightingales in the skies over Cliffe Pools and counted 116 pairs of avocets, the bird used as the charity's logo, at Elmley Marshes on Sheppey.

David James, from the RSPB's North Kent Marshes team, saw the avocets fly above him in their hundreds.

He said: "I was with the warden, doing something completely unconnected, when we looked up and realised there was this amazing sight. There were hundreds of birds everywhere. At one point a coot got among the avocets."

"A giant group of them began to gang up on it, making an almighty grunting noise, and saw it off. It was really high drama, amazing stuff."

Cliffe Pools is hosting an open day on Sunday. Visitors will be treated to a drop-in art workshop, guided walks, children's activities and a barbeque.

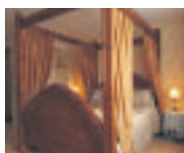
The free open day runs at the Salt Lane park from 11am to 4pm.

For more information call the North Kent Marshes team on 01634 222480.



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### SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

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(TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES, GERRY & THE PACEMAKERS, THE SEARCHERS AND MANY MORE)

### SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER

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### SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER

#### DIANA ROSS TRIBUTE

### THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER

#### BLONDIE TRIBUTE

### FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER

#### BLONDIE TRIBUTE

### SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER

#### ALL SKAS

(TRIBUTE TO 80'S TWO TONE REGGAE & SKA WITH MADNESS, UB40 AND MANY MORE)

### SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER

#### ALL SKAS

(TRIBUTE TO 80'S TWO TONE REGGAE & SKA WITH MADNESS, UB40 AND MANY MORE)

### MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER

#### DIRTY DANCING TRIBUTE

### TUESDAY 23RD DECEMBER

#### DIRTY DANCING TRIBUTE

### THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER

#### CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### REHMAN CHISHTI



**Q** Tell us a little about yourself.

**A** I am an elected councillor for Rainham Central and the cabinet member for community safety on Medway council. When not in politics I work as a barrister in London.

I have lived in Gillingham since I was six; it is a real privilege to have been elected to represent both parts of the constituency, first as a councillor for Gillingham North and now as a councillor representing Rainham Central.

I also enjoy sport, I captained Hempstead Youth Cricket club, which led me to play for Medway and Kent Schools.

**Q** How did you get into politics?

**A** I got involved in politics accidentally, when I was younger I wanted to be a cricket player, with Ian Botham my icon.

I saw politics as a means of changing things for the better, rather than complaining from the side. At university I was involved with the National Union of Students and campaigning against tuition fees, which I was firmly against as I believed good education is a basic right.

When I was younger I was disappointed in seeing Hempstead Cricket Club close because of vandalism. That made me want to be able to do something about anti-social behaviour.

**Q** What's the best thing about being a councillor?

**A** The best thing for me as a councillor is about being able to resolve issues for residents,

that may be getting a street light fixed, graffiti cleaned, or campaigning to get alley gates installed, which helps prevent anti-social behaviour, as well as larger campaigns against planning developments or road safety issues. Being a councillor is about being there for your residents and resolving the day-to-day issues which affect their quality of life.

**Q** What are your political aspirations?

**A** I am privileged to have been selected as the Conservative parliamentary candidate for my home town Gillingham and Rainham, which has enabled me to achieve all I have in my sporting academic and political life so far.

I want to help improve my home town and I feel I can do that more as the Conservative MP.

I have already started to campaign for more police officers for the streets, more doctors and nurses at our hospital and less bureaucracy, as well as better public transport both in terms of trains and buses which is affordable safe and clean, which would then encourage more people to use it and help the environment.

**Q** Who's the most inspirational politician you have met and why?

**A** I have to say it has to be the late assassinated Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. I was very fortunate and privileged to have worked with her as an adviser. Benazir was driven by the sole motive of empowering people through democracy, as she felt democracy was the best way to improve people's quality

of life. She was a conviction politician, who feared nothing. Benazir once said to me, "Reh, the key to success is perseverance, keep going until you achieve what you believe in."

**Q** What do you make of Boris Johnson being Mayor of London?

**A** I think Boris is excellent, just what London needed – a breath of fresh air, with new ideas. Having travelled to London with work over the last five years, issues such as crime, and public transport must be resolved.

**Q** What are your views on the American elections?

**A** I think American elections are very important to the international community.

The United States has always been a key ally of the United Kingdom at difficult times.

Having been and seen the American presidential system in action, as part of the British American Parliamentary Group, I am a firm believer in our parliamentary system as providing the best form of democracy.

**Q** What do you like to do outside of politics?

**A** I enjoy spending time with my family, my parents, younger siblings and my two nephews, who all live in Gillingham. I enjoy playing squash, running, and trying to go to my local gym to de-stress.

It nice to enjoy time away from politics with friends, catching a movie, or going ten-pin bowling.

**Q & A**

The Conservative prospective parliamentary candidate for Gillingham and Rainham took the time to talk to **Simon Robinson** about his political career to date and his aims for the future

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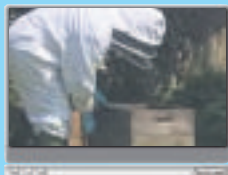
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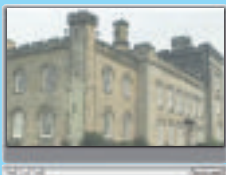
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Bees are facing a deadly new threat, as Canterbury Beekeepers' Association chairman Cheryl Crees explains.



Chiddingstone Castle has been re-opened to the public as part of the Seven Wonders of the Weald tour.



World War One 'Tommies' will be at Dover Castle during the bank holiday. Yourkenttv has been given a sneak preview.



Lest we forget: Ed Hill reports from the Flanders region of Belgium, after touring World War One cemeteries



Paramore on the In New Music We Trust stage at Radio 1's Big Weekend, one of many clips available to music fans.

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

[yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

# The siren of the sea

BY NICK AMES

A LAUNCH patrolling the county's coast is Kent police's newest weapon in the fight against crime and terrorism.

The Alexandra III carries on a tradition started in 1830, when the force used rowing boats – but she is the first craft at the disposal of officers since 1995.

She will be tackling illegal immigration, drug trafficking, people smuggling and terrorism.

The 53-foot long vessel, which is capable of speeds up to 27 knots, was originally designed as a prototype lifeboat but was modified for police work at a cost of £150,000.

She has been partially funded by the rise in the police share of the council tax in 2007.

Called a "floating police station" by Chief Constable Michael Fuller, she has a crew of three but can carry up to 16 – including firearms and other specialist teams.

The boat will work alongside two existing high-speed rigid inflatable craft, which are used for intercept work.

She has been called the Alexandra III as Kent police have already had an Alexandra I and II – named after the daughter of the late Duke and Duchess of Kent, who is also first cousin to the Queen.

The boat will be based at Sheerness on the Isle of Sheppey, but her patrol area encompasses the whole of the Kent coastline, which is the longest in England, stretching 350 miles from Dartford to Dungeness and a major gateway to continental Europe.

Ann Barnes, chair of the Kent Police



**FLOATING POLICE STATION:** The Alexandra III will patrol the county's 350-mile coastline

Authority, officially launched the Alexandra III in a champagne ceremony last Wednesday.

She said: "I'm really pleased to have this new asset that will act as our main police boat. Those who live or work by the sea will hopefully notice a police presence on the waters.

"An effective police force has to be able to stretch from dealing with localised problems to international organised crime and terrorism."

The boat is designed to operate alongside the country's Border Agency and will also be used to tackle rogue shipping.

Mr Fuller said: "This boat will be invaluable in increasing our capability and visi-

bility around the Kent coast and in the county's waterways.

"It will dramatically enhance the work we already do with our colleagues in other police forces and agencies, and help prevent the use of our coast and rivers for organised crime and terrorism.

"With its crew it will act as a virtual floating police station and provide protection and service to everyone in Kent."

Superintendent Andrew Lyttle, who has led the project, added: "This represents three years of planning and I'm delighted that the marine boat is going to add so much value to our policing effort."

## Kent cops put in big overtime bill

POLICE officers in Kent claimed more than £12.5 million in overtime last year, new figures show.

The payments, made to constables and sergeants for working additional hours, was the seventh highest of all the 53 police forces in the UK.

The overtime payments, uncovered by industry magazine Police Review in a Freedom of Information request, show more than half-a-billion pounds was paid to police officers in the UK last year.

The biggest overtime payments went to officers in the Met police, with the 31,000-strong force pocketing an extra £135.9m last year.

Next was Strathclyde in Scotland, which covers Glasgow, with a £26.1m overtime bill, followed by Greater Manchester with £25.1m.

West Midlands came fourth with £20m, Thames Valley was fifth with £15.7m, and just above Kent was Northamptonshire with £15m.

The British Transport Police billed a total of £10.2m in overtime, with the smallest claims coming from Humberside police, where the additional hours bill came to just £1.6m.

Forces in Gwent, the City of London, West Yorkshire and Central Scotland failed to provide information about overtime payments, so the nationwide figure will be significantly higher.

Julie Nesbit, chair of the Police Federation of England and Wales' constables central committee, said overtime is going up as forces are in desperate need of more officers.

She said: "Forces across the UK are saying they will reduce the number of constables and the workload is definitely not being reduced, so overtime is the only answer."

It has been suggested that the Government could scrap police overtime and replace it with a higher basic wage.

But a Home Office spokesman denied this.

## Homes get £10m fix-up

COUNCILS across the county are to receive £10 million over three years to spend on improving homes.

Tonbridge and Malling, Tunbridge Wells, Sevenoaks, Maidstone, Ashford, Dartford, Gravesham and Medway councils have been jointly awarded £9.75m by the South East Regional Housing Board.

Jill Anderson, Tonbridge and Malling's cabinet member for housing, said: "By adding funding for renewable energy sources to our list of grants, we can encourage people to help protect our environment and save money."

## Fundraisers have a ball for Demelza House

MORE than £100,000 was raised at the recent Demelza Charity Ball at Leeds Castle.

The total amount was boosted by a massive contribution from the ball's sponsors, Brakes Group of Ashford, who presented a cheque for £50,000.

The Sittingbourne-based charity, which provides hospice care for children with life-limiting illnesses across the county and beyond, had

arranged a medieval banquet in the grounds of the castle using the company's ingredients.

More than 500 guests enjoyed a night of feasting and pageantry, together with entertainers and musicians.

Popular DJ Neil Kefford, who presents Invicta's 'Kent's Home Run', hosted the auction in the guise of King Henry VIII.

There was high bidding for prizes ranging

from a private box to see Kylie in concert at the O2 Arena, a recording session with X Factor star Ben Mills, a luxury trip to Tokyo and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to release gorillas back into the wild in the Congo.

A spectacular fireworks display over Leeds Castle and a lively night of dancing rounded off one of Demelza's biggest nights in the social calendar.



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# Flagship campus plans

BY NICK AMES

AMBITIOUS plans for a new £75 million campus have been unveiled by the University College for the Performing Arts.

It wants to combine all the facilities it offers on a flagship site, which would also house an extended theatrical and musical centre.

The college currently has campuses in Maidstone, Rochester and Canterbury.

The exact location for the new campus has not been decided, but sites being considered include Medway and Swale, or developing the Oakwood Park campus in Maidstone, which will otherwise close.

A UCA spokeswoman said: "At the moment we are keeping our options open. We have not ruled anywhere out – what we need is the best site possible so that we can bring all our courses and classes under one roof."

"This would take place alongside our planned expansion into the performing arts. But it is a long-term project. We are talking about ten years or more."

"We are looking in the Medway area and down the Thames further east. But we run a successful facility in Maidstone, so we are looking at how best to build on that."



**FUTURE:** The Oakwood Park campus of the University College of the Performing Arts could be developed

At present the college – which specialises in subjects including art, design, media, communications and architecture – has 6,500 students in 80 graduate and post-graduate courses at its Kent campuses and its two in Surrey.

It plans to increase this figure to 9,000 and is working towards full university status – an upgrade from university college.

Rector of the University College Professor Elaine Thomas said: "We have prided ourselves over the years in creating a specialist community where students can harness their creative talents."

"As a sector the creative industries are growing at twice the rate of the UK economy and we need to ensure that we remain at the leading edge of our subjects."

## Spirit in the sky

THE Spirit of Kent will be flying high this summer as the county's very own Spitfire takes to the air.

The restored fighter is flown at displays in memory of the 131 County of Kent Squadron – a wartime RAF unit whose Spitfires were funded entirely by donations from people who lived in the county.

The veteran aircraft was bought by Peter Monk and Mike Simpson in 2006, who keep it at Biggin Hill airport.

Robin Brooks, from Maidstone, has written extensively about the aircraft and its history.

He said: "When you think about the Battle of Britain you think about the Spitfire and Hurricane, and during those days the skies above Kent swarmed with them."

"The fact that the people of Kent actually clubbed together enough money to fund a whole squadron shows how much the aircraft was held in high esteem."

"We feel it still is and a Spitfire in the skies above is an inspiring sight. It was restored to former glories to commemorate the people of the county and the fact that the Battle of Britain was fought overhead."

The Spirit of Kent will stage a



Picture: JON STOLE

**FLYING VISIT:** The Spirit of Kent stage flypasts at a number of summer events

flypast over the Hawkinge Battle of Britain Museum on Saturday and will be at Manston airport the following day.

Then, on Sunday, June, 15 it will

fly over Kent County Showground at Detling as part of a festival organised by rotary clubs, before taking part in the County Show at the same venue in mid July.

## 'Nightingale set the standard for hospital hygiene'



HOSPITAL board meetings need to focus more on patient care to avoid repeats of the superbug outbreaks in west Kent, according to one of the country's leading health campaigners.

Baroness Audrey Emerton of Tunbridge Wells and Clerkenwell, was awarded a life peerage after a long and distinguished career in nursing.

She visited Benenden Hospital, which is an independent hospital near Cranbrook, to mark National Nurses Day on Monday last week.

The day is held in celebration of the birthday of Florence Nightingale.

Baroness Emerton said: "She died 98 years ago and yet we still celebrate her birthday – the reason is her legacy."

"It is because of her basic standards in nursing, basic hygiene, nutrition and care. Florence Nightingale, of course, invented hygiene in the Crimean War. She set up the foundation of the nursing profession."

Hygiene, comfort and compassion for patients were the cornerstones of Nightingale's Notes of Nursing and remain vital today, she said.

KOS Media is currently running a campaign to promote good hygiene practices in hospital and healthcare centres across Kent.

Baroness Emerton agreed hygiene was hugely important if infection rates of superbugs such as MRSA and Clostridium difficile were to be kept down.

She spoke to nurses at Benenden about their work and congratulated the hospital on winning Top Independent Employer in the recent Nursing Times awards.

The hospital has not had one case of MRSA or C diff since 2000, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Asked what she thought the key to its success was, Baroness Emerton said: "Well, I suppose small is beautiful. The place is spotless and hand hygiene is available for everyone. What is interesting is their cleaners are their employees, not contracted."

"The ward sisters can control their own environment."

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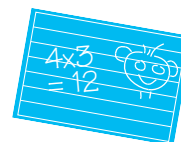
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# Power team bring their green thumbs



**ENTHUSIASM:** High Halstow pupils learn how to build a cane wigwam for growing beans

**KINGSNORTH** power station workers' swapped the plant for plants during a back-breaking visit to High Halstow Primary School.

The eight-strong team spent a morning at the school, working on a special gardening challenge as part of E.ON's community involvement programme.

Employee Cherry Thomas said: "We wanted to find a project that we could work on together as a team-building exercise and helping out the school with their garden also seemed the perfect way to give something back to the community."

"We spent a good few hours digging and generally sprucing up the garden, so it was great to see the results when we finished."

"Even those of us without such green-fingers enjoyed the hard work."

## BY SIMON ROBINSON

The plant's environment initiatives officer Bill Jones added: "I spend all my time looking after Kingsnorth's nature reserve and study centre, so it was a real pleasure to be able to transfer my skills to help out the school."

"Earlier in the year I helped the children build their own bat and nest boxes, and we worked together on finding the best place to put them up."

"It's great to see the school has such enthusiasm for environmental issues."

Kingsnorth had a long-standing relationship with the school.

Pupils, staff and parents are regular visitors to the power station's nature and study centre, while the workers are often invited to join the school's Green Team after-hours club.

High Halstow's headteacher Pat Sanford said the workers' latest efforts were

appreciated by staff and students alike.

She said: "The pupils are eager to plant their bean plants and other vegetables now the garden has been cleared, so we would like to thank all the team for their hard work in clearing the garden."

"Especially as they continued even when the rain and hail came down."

"We look forward to continuing the partnership with E.ON as the green team prepares to work towards the highest award in the Eco Schools Award – the Green Flag."

Eco Schools is an international award programme that encourages children of all ages to tackle sustainability issues at school and rewards excellence in environmental activity.

Kingsnorth's Bill and Cherry were joined by colleagues Angie Fryer, Roma Foster, Leanne Jewell, Shaun Soules, Julie Wanting and Russell Millford.

## BREAK TIME

### Leadership praised in good report

FEATHERBY Infant and Nursery School has been rated as 'good' in its latest Ofsted report.

The Gillingham school, which has 308 three to seven-year-olds, was said to be performing well in a number of categories, from teaching to leadership.

Inspector Derek Watts wrote: "Featherby is a good school and parents are very pleased with both the care and education provided for their children."

"The leadership of the school, the quality of teaching and care, and the progress children are making received particular praise."

Mr Watts said the school's foundation stage and IT department had improved considerably since the last inspection, with better equipment and increased teacher expertise boosting the progress of

pupils' computer skills.

Teaching is said to be good with elements of outstanding practice. Teachers have established clear expectations of behaviour and learning, and pupils were found to respond well to these.

Headteacher Jane Thompson said: "I'm pleased with this report, which recognises our achievements and our good progress since the last inspection."

"We pride ourselves on our involvement with parents and the community and I'm glad this report acknowledges our successes here."

Children's services councillor Les Wicks said: "I'm very pleased all the hard work, commitment and dedication of the staff to the well-being of the pupils at Featherby Infants has been recognised, and look forward to that success continuing."

SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your own video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)

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# yourmedwayblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in Medway...



## It must be summer – I'm behind a very slow tractor

NOT only do they get to own huge slices of our green and (mostly) pleasant land, they think they own the damn roads too.

Yep, our farming pals are at it again: summer's here and so it's time for them to take a long, slow drive between their fields – just as we're off to work, on the school run, or returning from work of course – holding me and everyone else up in a long tail behind them.

We have British Summer Time purely to help you farmers get more daylight so you can count your EU handout cash.

So do us all a favour and drive your tractors and combines when the sun comes up – about 5am if you hadn't noticed – so I can drive to work at 8am without getting stuck.

All this happens on roads that I pay for.

Yes, firstly the extortion that is my annual road tax (£165) and then the tax I'm paying on the fuel in my car.

I pay £1.25 for a litre of diesel (more than five quid a gallon) while farmer bloody Giles on his huge fat-wheeled tractor potters along

at 20 miles an hour on red diesel which he gets tax free. Terrific.

The sight of a tractor crawling at between 10 and 15 mph followed by a sweating row of seething car drivers is as much a feature of the English summer as the inevitable plucky Brit failing at Wimbledon.

The winter months are mercifully free of people who seem to regard themselves as some sort of "tractorocracy".

Last week I turned onto a main Kent A road. But trundling past were six – yes six – tractors in a row. All proceeding at that painfully slow pace followed by at least 20 cars on one of the hottest days of the year.

But did the tractors make any move to step aside. What do you think?

They went along at a snail's pace until they reached a field and then disappeared.

For people who travel 500 yards out of towns, this is a summer menace which needs to be addressed and some forward thinking people in the Midlands did just that.

They created the Considerate Farmers' Voluntary Code for Highway Movements.

It suggested that tractors should not be on the road from 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6.30pm.

They should drive close to the nearside kerb to make overtaking easier, pull over at every available lay-by, avoid travelling in convoys and finally ensure they are not overloaded so they spill stuff onto the road.

It had the full backing of the local councils and the police.

There was even a "Well Driven" sign to be displayed on tractors adhering to these rules.

Then there was a number to call so people could report farmer vehicles who were playing at being king of the road.

And in the first few weeks guess how many farmers signed up? Three, yes three.

So there you see the socially-aware attitude of the sons of the soil in the heart of England.

But I bet it would be three more than would sign up in Kent.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.**

### GET IN TOUCH...

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**EMAIL:** Letters, comments, views (along with your name) to: [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk)



**TEXT:** **MEDW** then your message to: 81800 (please remember to include your name)

### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Jon Coates**, on 01303 817048 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk).

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# yourcompetition

## WIN the most laid-back album of the summer



**JUST CHILLIN':** Norman Cook, aka Fatboy Slim, joins a host of dance stars on Ministry of Sound's Chilled 1991-2008

FOLLOWING on from the half-a-million selling Anthems compilation Ministry Of Sound bring you its sister album, Chilled. The history of chillout music in one album, celebrating 17 years of the finest sounds from the genre.

Downtempo delights from the biggest names in chill including Lemon Jelly, A Man Called Adam, Bent and Sebastian Tellier take you on a journey through years of the coolest chilled out sounds.

It contains picked the finest selection of the all time classics to bring memories flooding back and transport you in to a state of pure bliss.

The tracklist highlights come in the form of The Orb's 'Little Fluffy Clouds', Royksopp's 'Eple', Fatboy Slim's 'Demon's, Everything But The Girl 'Missing', Jakatta's 'American Dream', William Orbit's 'Barbers Adagio', The Avalanches' 'Since I Left You', Jose Gonzales' 'Heartbeats' and Mylo's 'In My



Arms'. The collection goes as far back as The Beloved's 'Sweet Harmony', right up to recent soothing sounds of Peter, Bjorn & John's 'Young Folks'.

This is the ultimate collection of laid-back beats and blissed-out house, the all-time biggest anthems in chill.

We have six copies of this fantastic album to giveaway. For your chance to win simply answer the question below and send your

entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Chilled CD Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.

You can also text your answer to 81800, by sending CHILL08, followed by a space, the answer, a space and your name and address.

Messages cost 25p plus standard network charges. The service is provided by g8wave London N7.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry

**Q) How many years of finest sounds are Ministry Of Sound celebrating?**

Closing date is 10.06.08.

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# yourmedwaymusic

## There's no time to lose if you want to Lounge

BY SIMON ROBINSON

**ADVANCE** warning: all cash-strapped, disorganised and 'I'll do it tomorrow' music fans look away now – early-bird tickets to this year's Lounge On The Farm festival have sold out.

Although the reduced-fee allocation to the Canterbury three-dayer has been snapped up, full-priced passes are still available.

And with indie rockers The Mystery Jets, Canadian starlets Holy F\*ck and folk act Johnny Flynn And The Sussex Wit among the latest batch of top acts added to the bill, the £85 price tag for a weekend ticket still represents somewhat of a bargain.

To date, more than 60 bands, solo stars and DJs have agreed to perform at Merton Farm over the weekend of Friday to Sunday, July 11-13.

The main cowshed arena bill already boasts The Bees, Black Kids, Polka Party, Billy Childish, Art Brut and The Shortwave Set, while scores of more established acts have been allocated slots on the six other stages.

The Sheep Dip, for example, will play host to Those Dancing Days, Magistrates and Los Campesinos, and the Hoe Down features DJ sets from two 80s superstars – former Specials frontman Terry Hall and his Dexty's Midnight Runners equivalent Kevin Rowland.

A festival spokesman said: "With an amazing line-up and set in the idyllic surrounds of Merton Farm, Lounge On The Farm has shown that boutique festivals can make waves in such a competitive market."

"As the festival season gears up and the



**MORE:** Art Brut and The Mystery Jets have signed up to play this year's Lounge On The Farm

weather gets hotter, it's time to get your tickets while you still can."

Sunday at LOTF has been dubbed Local Heroes' day, with acts from across the county dominating the line-up.

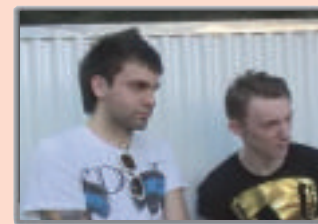
Among those to perform are Underground Heroes, Lupen Crook And The Murderbirds, UpCDownC, Brigadier Ambrose, What Would Jesus Drive, Zombie Met Girl, Seven Storey Down and Intraverse.

A full weekend ticket costs £85 for adults, £40 for children. A family ticket, based on two adults and two children, costs £180. Day entry costs £35 for adults and £20 for children. Those under the age of five go free.

For details see [www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk](http://www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk).



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**PUNK ROCKERS:** Gallows talk to us at Maidstone's Big Weekend



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# yourletters



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## TALK TIME

### DAVID CARR

The new Mayor of Medway talks about his brief time in the position and his hopes for the coming year



#### Tell us a little about yourself.

I am retired after working for MoD in naval bases for 27 years, Babcock Power for six years and what was Marconi Avionics (Now BAe) for 14 years. I'm married to Kirstine and have a daughter Helen, a son Ashley and have four grandchildren. I was elected to Rainham North ward in May last year as a Conservative councillor and have served principally on committees for development and control, employment matters and Anti-rust Trust.

#### How excited are you about being mayor?

The last year of service as a councillor has been the most rewarding for me in a long time. The next year as Mayor of Medway promises to be fantastic and I am very excited with the prospect of being involved with all walks of life in the borough - and many outside Medway too. I have already met some really interesting people from tots in the Medway Stage Festival to war veterans at Medway Maritime Hospital Foundation celebration. This year is my opportunity to be able to positively influence all those who can help to make Medway a better place to live - to remove graffiti from our walls, dirt and grime from our streets and the threat of bad behaviour from our doorsteps, so that residents can feel proud to live here, and visitors will want to stay here.

#### Which charities are you supporting and why?

I will be actively supporting the local branch of the NSPCC, the Wisdom Hospice and the Alzheimer's and Dementia Family Support group and, of course, any other really deserving cause which may arise during my tenure.

#### What do you like to do outside of work?

All this doesn't leave much time for me to pursue my hobby, which is sailing. I have a boat in Chatham Marina which I have sailed a great deal in the past few years but which may have to be put on hold for the next year.

## YOUR LETTERS

### Big weekend was absolutely great

It was an absolutely amazing weekend, especially the Saturday - looks like you picked the best day to be filming.

The acts you included were some of my favorites and rocked the show. Great job guys!

Mike Henson  
comment posted on video clip of highlights of Radio 1's Big Weekend on our broadband TV channel

**Editor's reply:** We're glad you liked our coverage of the Big Weekend. Our readers can see more than 20 video clips of interviews with the stars and the bands performing by visiting [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk).

### Building deserves preservation order

I am sure everyone must be aware that Medway council is relocating its staff to the old Lloyds building in Chatham.

But has anyone wondered what will happen to the Civic Centre once it is empty?

The plan is to knock the whole building down and sell the land for redevelopment.

While I agree the Civic Centre has become an eyesore, these plans include the old Edwardian part of the building, which used to be the Thomas Aveling factory and proudly bears a plaque to commemorate this fact.

How can this building be important enough to bear this plaque for so many years, but now is not important enough to be saved?

There is no preservation order on this part of the building. Surely this part should be saved



## COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Rochester, Chatham, Gillingham and Strood, as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

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and could, if nothing else, be

converted into apartments?  
Come on Medway, please save your heritage!

Name and address withheld  
at request of correspondent  
By email



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### Rough Guide labels town as 'grim'

Unfortunately this is the image that Chatham portrays to the rest of the country.

I hardly visit Chatham High Street any more as each time I do the bad attitudes and miserable faces make me leave feeling depressed. Quite frankly there are much nicer places to shop and spend the day.

Timothy Wesley, from Rainham,  
comment posted on web version of story  
on [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk)



Last week's Yourmedway

### Rochester benefits at our expense

Your article in the May 14 issue of Yourmedway titled 'Town given rough end of tourist stick' interested me and I have to



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agree with the comments made about the Medway towns.

I came to live here in 1964, moving from Greenwich before it was gentrified. When we moved here, Rochester High Street was a run down area and Chatham High Street was called the Golden Mile.

The situation has reversed, mainly because the council has encouraged investment in Rochester at the expense of the rest of the Medway.

So, Rochester is now a tourist attraction but do the tourists spend much money there? Or do they just come to look?

Randolph Jones  
By email



www.yourmedway.co.uk

## Don't use hospital - experience dreadful

It's a great shame this (Hospital bosses have reduced shocking death rate) came too late for my dear brother-in-law, who died in 2005 after a 'routine' operation.

His treatment (or lack of) was dire at this hospital and the night he died was a travesty - the doctor couldn't even be bothered to call him by name, just kept saying "this patient".

If you can go anywhere else for treatment, please do it, don't let

someone you love end up at Medway Hospital, the chances are they probably won't come out again.

Nora Dempsey, Sandown, Isle of Wight,  
comment posted on web story at  
www.yourmedway.co.uk.



Last week's Yourmedway

## Three Ps sum up new leader of London

Last week your blogger praised the appalling Boris Johnson as a good choice for mayor of London. Well, I think he or she is sadly mistaken.

This so-called "toff" will prove an absolute nightmare and he has absolutely no idea of the problems facing normal people. The Conservative Party has once again shown its true colours - the party of public school, privilege and posh.

Michael Phillips  
By email

## Donations still urgent for cyclone victims

Cyclone Nargis has affected an estimated 1.5 million people in Burma. We would like to thank the British public for donating to the Disasters Emergency Committee's

Myanmar (Burma) Appeal, which has so far raised £6 million.

DEC agencies have reached more than 350,000 people with essential items such as food, water, shelter, and medicines.

The Red Cross has landed ten flights of aid, with a further seven due to arrive soon. Other member agencies are working through partners to set up relief camps.

The money is being spent and aid is getting through to those in need.

Rains predicted over the coming days are set to compound an already desperate situation.

If we are to continue to respond, your support is vital. Please donate at www.dec.org.uk or call 0870 60 900.

Brendan Cornley  
Chief executive of the Disasters Emergency Committee

## Volunteering is good for our hearts

I am writing to appeal to your readers to help the British Heart Foundation by volunteering at their local BHF Shop in Medway.

Volunteers are absolutely essential to the success of the BHF. Last year thanks to our volunteers, BHF Shops raised a staggering £14 million to fight heart disease - the UK's single biggest killer.

We urgently need more volunteers in BHF shops to raise vital funds and help us continue our work.

I urge your readers to pop along to their local BHF Shop and ask about volunteering. Find your local BHF shop at bhf.org.uk/shops or call 0844 412 5000.

Ken Blair  
Chief executive of BHF Shops

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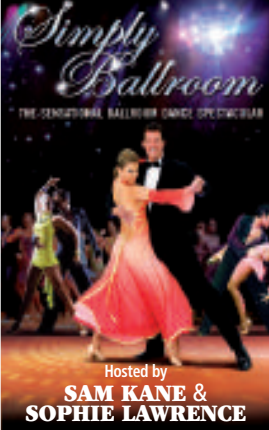
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# yourmedwayleisure

## The singing footballer

### Almost four decades on, David Essex is still a musical legend

WHEN the young David Essex dreamed of being a footballer, a successful music career must have been the last thing on his mind.

But Essex chose to abandon soccer for singing and went on to become an internationally acclaimed musician, as well as a heartthrob for ladies everywhere. Now a composer and star of both stage and screen, Essex, 60, has a lot to look back on after almost four decades in the business.

He grew up in east London with the surname Cook and joined West Ham United Juniors in the hope of becoming a footballer.

But in the end he decided to go in a more artistic direction, and when he auditioned for the London production of the musical *Godspell* in 1971 at the age of 23, his life changed forever.

Chosen for the role of Jesus, Essex shot to fame amid ecstatic reviews and received two major awards. This led to a lead role in the film *That'll Be The Day* co-starring Ringo Starr, followed by the sequel *Stardust* with Larry Hagman and Adam Faith.

Following the rise and fall of pop star Jim Maclaine, they are still regarded as two of the best films about the rock scene.

#### Hysteria

While filming, Essex wrote and recorded *Rock On*, which became a huge hit in both the UK and the US, securing his status as a global star. It was followed by *Lamplight* and the number one hits *Hold Me Close* and *Gonna Make You A Star*.

His first UK tour caused chaos, generating scenes of fan hysteria on the level of Beatlemania. He was nominated for a Grammy for *Rock On* and attracted the compliments of no less a person than John Lennon.

Despite his popularity in the States, Essex turned down several lucrative deals in order to return home and produce several successful albums. He demonstrated his skills as a theatrical performer when offered the part of Che in *Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's Evita*, but he was also encouraged to do



**TALENTED:** David Essex has made a name for himself as both an actor and a musician

more straight acting by Richard Burton.

He starred in and wrote the score for his motorbike racing film *Silver Dream Racer*, which generated another chart hit with *Silver Dream Machine*. Television viewers were kept happy with the 1989 series *The River*, in which he played a charming lock keeper. As well as popular music, Essex worked on a ballet score for the Russian All Stars Company in the mid-90s, while keeping true to his Romany roots by becoming patron of the Gypsy Council.

In 1999 he was awarded an OBE for his services to charity. The 21st century has seen more recording and roles in musicals, most recently playing George in *Aspects of Love*, which visited Kent earlier this year.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £25. Phone the box office on 01322 220000, or book online at [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk).

**DAVID ESSEX**

Monday, June 2

The Orchard Theatre, Dartford



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## LITTLE SHIPS

Saturday to Monday, May 24 to 26  
Chatham Maritime

THE Little Ships of Dunkirk will be arriving at Chatham as part of a commemorative cruise this weekend.

Marking the 68th anniversary of the dramatic evacuation mission, the cruise has been organised by the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships and will be a poignant reminder of that famous display of bravery in 1940.

Over a period of eight days, 338,000 British and French troops were evacuated from the Dunkirk beaches by privately owned boats and pleasure craft – referred to as 'Little Ships' – alongside naval and merchant marine vessels in Operation Dynamo.

Every five years the association stages a return to Dunkirk, last held in 2005, but in between a commemorative cruise is held to mark the anniversary.

The Little Ships will arrive on Saturday and be moored at Chatham Maritime basin number one, by the bridge to St Mary's Island. A remembrance service will be held at 11.30am on Sunday. Visitors are welcome to see the ships while they are moored.



## FOUR WINDS PIRATE FESTIVAL

Sunday and Monday, May 25 and 26  
Historic Dockyard, Chatham

SWASHBUCKLING fun will be on offer at the annual Four Winds Pirate Festival, being held at Chatham for the first time.

The Dockyard hosts the first visit by the festival which is the yearly gathering of the UK pirate re-enactors 'brotherhood'. Children can enrol as an honorary pirate, while the troops of the 42nd Highland Regiment will be recruiting for the King's Army.

Visitors can join The Fellowship of the Pirates for the day and, for an extra charge, make their own badge or even have a temporary tattoo. The pirates and troops will set up separate encampments and demonstrate how to make musket balls and cook in period style.

Troops can take part in a foot drill and learn how to hunt pirates, while pirates will show off their dastardly skills with real cannons and muskets.

With a daily Grand Pirate Parade and a full scale battle, it should be a thrilling day out for all the family.

Normal admission prices apply. For more details call 01634 823800 or go online at [www.chdt.org.uk](http://www.chdt.org.uk).



## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST ON ICE

Wednesday to Saturday, May 28 to 31, Orchard Theatre, Chatham

THE classic tale of love against the odds is brought to life in Beauty and The Beast On Ice.

Starring the world's tallest professional ice skater Andrey Chuvilyaev, the production by the Russian Ice Stars is a breathtaking show that demonstrates the skill of the company.

A member of the 2006

Russian Olympic team, Chuvilyaev stands at more than 2m and performs the world's highest lifts with Olga Pershankova. The former European and world championship level skater will be playing Beauty.

With more than 300 competition medals between them, the Russian Ice Stars have been captivating audi-

ences all over the world for 15 years.

This show has been choreographed by Cavaliere Giuseppe Arena, who staged the opening ceremony of the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Performances start at 7pm daily with 2.30pm matinees on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Tickets are from £10 to £22.50. Call the box office on 01322 220000 or book at [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk).



## MEDWAY LEISURE

### Library exhibits work inspired by nature

AN EXHIBITION of sculpture inspired by the shapes and forms of nature can be enjoyed in Walderslade from next week.

From Nature, a collection of work by Sue Blinkho, is at Walderslade library from Tuesday to Thursday, June 5.

Opening times are 9am to 6pm on Tuesday and Friday, 2pm to 6pm on Wednesday and Thursday and 10am to 4pm on Saturday. Admission is free. For more information call 01634 686467.

### Open your property for annual heritage days

HIDDEN treasures are being sought for this year's Heritage Open Days.

As part of the national scheme co-ordinated by the Civic Trust in partnership with English Heritage, the event will run from September 11 to 14. Many buildings in Rochester will take part. Organisers are seeking lesser known gems to join in.

For more details visit the website at [www.heritageopendays.co.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.co.uk) or call Esther Gill at English Heritage on 07500 097957.

### Sing along with some wartime favourites

RELIVE the heyday of wartime entertainment in We'll Meet Again.

The show pays tribute to some of the greatest performers of the era such as Bing Crosby, George Formby, Max Miller, Gracie Fields and Vera Lynn.

We'll Meet Again will be at the Central Theatre, Chatham, tomorrow, starting at 2.30pm. Tickets cost £10/£9.

To book call the box office on 01634 338338 or visit the website at [www.medway.gov.uk/theatres](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatres).

### Chocolate world of dreams is on stage

TAKE a trip on a chocolate river in a musical performance at the Brook Theatre in Chatham.

Based on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, I've Got a Golden Ticket will take audiences to place where dreams come true.

The show runs on Friday and Saturday, and tickets cost £8, concessions available. Go to the website at [www.medway.gov.uk/theatres](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatres) or call the box office on 01634 338338.

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# Pinpointing the problem to fix it

## Restore your body's natural balance with acupuncture

### ■ Chatham Chinese Herbal Centre

THE centre based in the Pentagon has enormous expertise in the use of acupuncture for all types of pain relief.

It opened more than five years ago and the expert doctors have successfully treated thousands of patients.

Many people turn to this type of treatment after finding that conventional medicine just hasn't worked – from frozen shoulders to arthritis.

Scientific studies are offering real evidence that acupuncture can ease pain and treat ailments ranging from osteoarthritis to migraine headaches.

Celebrities including Kate Moss and Kate Winslet are among hundreds of converts to the practice.

It has been an essential part of medicine for thousands of years in the East, yet even as it has become more and more popular in the West, physicians aren't totally clear how this ancient technique works. But whatever the mechanisms they accept it does work.

The technique involves placing hair-thin needles in various pressure points (called acupoints) throughout the body. Stimulating



these points is believed to promote the body's natural healing capabilities and enhance function.

Two very different theories exist as to how acupuncture works. According to Chinese philosophy, the body contains two opposing forces: yin and yang. When these forces are in balance, the body is healthy. Energy, called qi (pronounced chee), flows like rivers along pathways, or meridians, throughout the body. This constant flow of energy keeps the yin and yang balanced. A disruption in the flow of energy can lead to illness.

Approximately 2,000 different acupuncture points lie along the body's meridians. The idea behind acupuncture is that stimulating these points with acupuncture needles or pressure relieves obstructions in the flow of energy, enabling the body to heal.

In the Western view, acupuncture likely works by stimulating the central nervous system (the brain and spinal cord) to release chemicals called neurotransmitters and hor-

mones. These chemicals dull pain, boost the immune system and regulate various body functions.

Several different types of acupuncture exist, all originating from different parts of the world. Most use the type of acupuncture based on traditional Chinese medicine, which restores the natural flow of energy by stimulating pressure points throughout the body to correspond to various organ systems.

Five Element acupuncture is an ancient Chinese technique used to treat problems of both the body and the mind. It is based on the idea that health, just like everything else in the universe, is governed by the five elements: water, wood, fire, earth, and metal.

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A 10 minute treatment costs £99 but, to get the best results, you normally need between four and five treatments.

You can have them all on the same day and the more times the procedure is repeated, the lower the cost per treatment. At Laserwhite it is even possible to get interest-free credit, subject to availability and status.

So if you want lovely white teeth go to



Laserwhite, 47b High Street, Rainham, call 0800 0196047 or visit [www.laserwhite.co.uk](http://www.laserwhite.co.uk).

Opening times are Monday to Saturday, 10am until 8pm and Sundays, 10am until 4pm.

## Self esteem boosting

### ■ Think Slim 'n' Trim

A PERSONAL solution to health and weight loss goals is offered by Think Slim 'n' Trim with Herbalife coach Nevil Kapadia reaching out to clients in many different countries.

He explains of his online business: "Herbalife is a major way to maximise nutrition and potential and customers can go online to see what products are available to ensure their body is at its very best.

"Often the most available foods are high in fat, sugar and salt and lacking in essential nutrients. This can lead to the body being denied essential vitamins and minerals."

The UK, Finland, Sweden, New Zealand and the USA all boast customers for Nevil's health-boosting range.

One of the most popular products he offers is Formula 1 – a shake-style drink developed 27 years ago.

A meal in itself in one glass, it is the ideal start to any day as it is packed with vitamins and minerals, soya protein, carbohydrates and healthy fibre – but with less than 220 calories in each serving.

Nevil, who would love to work with soccer star David Beckham and his LA Galaxy team mates, said he has received very positive feed-



**SMALLER:** Yvonne is proud of how much success she's had with Think Slim 'n' Trim from Nevil Kapadia, pictured left

back.

"It really is life changing," he said. "It's unbelievable how you have more time in the day when you feel great about yourself."

"Energy levels have shot through the roof. Self esteem and self worth is increased as well. You can do things you would never do before. Imagine yourself at your absolute best, nourished, healthier and rearing to go, feel the difference. That difference is Think Slim 'n' Trim."

### TOP TIPS

#### Kings Private Clinic

When visiting Kings Private Clinic, follow the treatments and guidelines as recommended by the doctor and you soon see the results. Then a healthy balanced diet and fitness helps maintain the weight loss.

#### Laser white

Be aware of what you drink; obviously coffee, tea, cola and red wine - will quickly stain teeth. When eating, there are foods will stain and tarnish teeth faster. The major ones are curries and Bolognese sauce and similar foods. Smoking is probably the number one culprit in staining and tarnishing teeth.

#### Allen&Walden professional training

Now is the season to be brown. For safe tanning why not try a professional spray tan. For best results remember to exfoliate your body a few days prior to your salon visit paying particular attention to dry rough areas

#### Reflections: Bridgewood Manor

Have a facial, manicure and pedicure once a month. Use a nourishing cream or oil on your nails to keep them strong. An algae wrap is beneficial for weight loss, whilst body massage helps with muscle tone. Use a cream for hard skin on your feet regularly.

#### Village Hotel

Weight training should be combined with some cardio, because each activity has its unique benefits. Take the time to learn and use proper exercise form, both to avoid injuries and to not look foolish. Do adequate warm-ups, practice proper breathing, and don't try to increase weights too quickly. Don't hurt yourself trying to impress other people. The secret to great abs is dieting. Crunches don't burn any more fat than any other exercise.

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Cook books going cheap at the Pentagon Centre, Gillingham High Street, Hempstead Valley stores include Delia Smith's How to Cheat at Cooking for £8.

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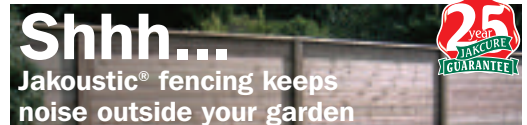
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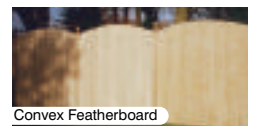
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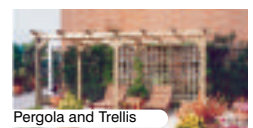


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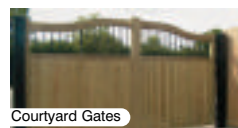


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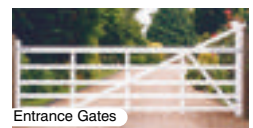


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A remake of the 2004 horror hit from Thailand about a photographer and his girlfriend involved in a tragic road accident who later notice ghostly figures in the backgrounds of their pictures. Joshua Jackson and Rachel Taylor star in a supernatural frightener that suggests that the spirits never leave us.

### SMART PEOPLE (15)



Professor Lawrence Wetherhold (Dennis Quaid) is an intellectual giant, but flummoxed when it comes to love and family. When he accidentally encounters former student Janet (Sarah Jessica Parker), the result is often comical, sometimes heartbreaking, for everyone around him.

# Emile doesn't have time for life in the slow lane

■ BY ELLIE GENOWER

HE RECEIVED critical acclaim for his sensitive portrayal of Chris McCandless in last year's Sean Penn-directed film, *Into the Wild*.

So it was assumed that up-and-coming actor Emile Hirsch would go straight to another small, character-led film, building up his fledgling career slowly but surely.

But the 22-year-old wasn't having a bit of it. He hopped from the snowy climes of Alaska to the futuristic, colourful and slightly warped world of *Matrix* directors Larry and Andy Wachowski's *Speed Racer*.

"It was like being in a sauna for a year and then someone running in and throwing you into an ice bath," says Emile, who plays the lead role in the movie adaptation of the original Japanese cartoon.

Emile plays car-crazy kid Speed in a futuristic world of corporate greed, race-fixing and dirty tactics.

To create the larger-than-life setting, he and fellow cast members Christina Ricci (Trixie), Susan Sarandon (Mom), John Goodman (Pops) and Matthew Fox (Racer X) spent much of the time filming in Berlin against a green screen, before the Wachowskis added their special brand of post-production computer wizardry.

"It was a shock. We were outdoors every day on *Into the Wild*, climbing mountains and crossing rivers, so to jump onto the green screen was tough," says Emile.

"It is harder because you've got to be on your game and it's easy to slip up, so you've always got to be focused. The real environment is always easier on the actor, because it's more natural to react to."

*Speed Racer* is a character who has plenty of focus. The film begins with Speed and his family trying to deal with the death of his adored brother Rex Racer, before Speed grows up to become a star racer himself.

## VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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After turning down a lucrative offer and untold riches to race for corrupt corporate giant Royalton Industries, he and his family go it alone with his dad's racing cars, leaving Speed aiming to compete in the ultimate race: the Grand Prix.

But although mind-blowing effects certainly create an edge-of-your-seat experience, does the growing reliance on computer wizardry in films like *Speed Racer* detract from plot and character? Emile thinks not.

"The Wachowskis made this about the family," he says. "Speed is fighting against the greed of the corporate world and trying to find the meaning of life and all that."

He hopes that *Speed Racer* will eventually become a trilogy, emulating *The Matrix*, one of his favourite films.

Clearly, before any more films are made, *Speed Racer* has to hit the spot at the box office. And with big competition this summer from the likes of *Indiana Jones*, *Batman*, *Iron Man* and the *Incredible Hulk*, it's not going to be an easy task.

"The thing that's really going to separate



**POLE POSITION:** Emile Hirsch is a young man in a hurry and *Speed Racer* could turbo-charge his fledgling career

*Speed Racer* from some of those big summer movies, is the fact that this is a family film," Emile says.

"Some of those other movies are a little bit more adult and dark, which is cool, but *Speed Racer* is really a movie made for the whole family, that kids are going to love but adults are going to love too."

"And it's one of those movies where you almost want to stand up and cheer at points."



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# yourmedwaytimeout

## YOUR TV REVIEW



**POINTS OF VIEW:** ITV1's Loose Women is the perfect programme for an afternoon snooze

**THE F WORD**  
Channel 4, 9pm, Tuesdays  
**LOOSE WOMEN**  
ITV1, 12.30pm, weekdays

BY TOM BETTS

TAKE one celebrity chef, trim off silly hat and apron and baste in his own self-confidence.

Add a cart-load of fancy ingredients, a barely capable bunch of wannabe cooks and leave to stand between commercial breaks.

Sprinkle with a handful of risqué language, bring to the boil and simmer for ten minutes then plate up, before placing in the fridge. Leave to marinate in its own arrogance for at least six weeks and serve your F Word speciale to an unwitting public.

Yes, this hour of saucy language and even saucier food has quickly become Channel Four's flagship food show and has won an army of fans.

Striding through the aisles on his way to berate a team of ordinary people like some kind of prize fighter, master of ceremonies Ramsay enters the heat of the kitchen and reminds us just why he became the phenomenon he is.

Hard, unscrupulous and not afraid to call a spade a f\*\*\*\*\* spade, our

man in the whites has returned for series four.

Even on bad form, such as the American version of the otherwise excellent Kitchen Nightmares, GR is always worthy of your attention – if only to see what poor soul trying his best he will compare to male genitalia that week.

Boiling Point, the show that catapulted Ramsey into the public eye in 1998 is still the most fascinating thing in which he's been involved, but at least here he is allowed to swear and castigate members of the public rather than desperate celebrities, which is far more fun.

If ever there was a bad title for a TV show it's the appallingly-titled, lunchtime snooze-athon, Loose Women. Here a panel of four old duffers haggle over who hates men the most then fawn over their often male soap star guests to the sycophantic cheering of the bussed in audience of blue-rinsed pensioners.

Didn't this kind of thing used to be called sexism?!

These women are far from loose, but then I guess the Man Hating Female Moan Fest doesn't sound half as good, even if it is far, far more accurate.

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



**AQUARIUS** (Jan 21-Feb 19)

**YOUR** reputation could take a hit this week. It's possible you promised more than you could deliver. If that's the case, you owe everyone involved an apology. Funds you were expecting may not be forthcoming. Don't be afraid to rely on others when the chips are down.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



**PISCES** (Feb 20-Mar 20)

**IT'S** hard to be receptive to people whose ideas are completely opposite to yours. Still, you're going to have to work alongside them. Try putting your opinions aside, at least until the job is done. You may be surprised to learn that you can actually like somebody who has a different approach.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



**ARIES** (Mar 21-Apr 20)

**THIS** week brings some important challenges for intimate relationships. You may have some unreasonable expectations of a partner. The sooner you adopt a practical view the happier you'll be. Work might prove difficult, too. Slow and steady wins the race with regard to this matter.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



**TAURUS** (Apr 21-May 21)

**A CLOSE** partnership is showing signs of strain. One of you may be working at the expense of your personal life. The two of you will have to work hard to recover the magic that first drew you together. It may not be possible to get paid what you deserve this week.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



**GEMINI** (May 22-Jun 22)

**YOUR** health may not be very robust right now. It's important to slow down when you start feeling tired or you could contract a low grade virus. Sometimes being true to yourself means turning away the people you love. Spending time alone can replenish your energy.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



**CANCER** (Jun 23-Jul 23)

**IT** will take all your self-discipline to focus on work. An admirer could play hot and cold with you. You don't appreciate these tactics; you need to know where you stand. It may be wise to put some distance between you, at least until your friend gets serious.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



**LEO** (Jul 24-Aug 23)

**IT'S** important to take a more reasoned approach with a partner who has let you down. There's a good chance that your friend is completely oblivious to the hurt he or she has caused. If you're going to restore your relationship, you need to have a calm discussion.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



**VIRGO** (Aug 24-Sep 23)

**CURIOSITY** could put you on a dangerous path. Be careful where you poke your nose, or it could get slapped. A mysterious ache could drive you to distraction. Beware of being overly harsh on neighbour who is just trying to do his best. A little compassion goes a long way.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



**SCORPIO** (Oct 24-Nov 22)

**YOU** want to be appreciated, and that's only natural, but everyone is pretty self-absorbed this week. All of your hard work could go completely unnoticed. If this happens, don't despair. Just do something nice for yourself as a reward or resentment will get the best of you.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov 23-Dec 21)

**RESIST** the urge to play the victim. Although it feels like the world is against you, it's important to remain calm when challenged by critics. The moment you let down your guard is the time when your rivals will move in for the kill. Your boss expects more of you than others.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22-Jan 20)

**GOING** along with the crowd may not be the best idea. Although you want to be liked by your peers, you can't help feeling they're on the wrong track. Forging your own path could hurt people's feelings, but that can't be helped. Give yourself time to rethink, plan again, and then move on.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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## CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

No37

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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

EASY

	5							8
		2	3	6	7	1	5	
					5	6	2	
	6	5			9		8	
2	8	3				9	4	5
	9		5			3	1	
	1	8	2					
	7	6	1	4	8	5		
4								6

MEDIUM

	5		4					
		7				8	6	
3	6		8	9		7		
2		5			9			
	1		3		5			
	9			4		1		
	3	7	1			4	8	
1	8				6			
			2			1		

HARD

	1			4				
				6				
						7	4	3
		6	7		9			
2			6	9			1	
	7		8		4			
3	4	1						
			9				6	
			3				2	

### CRYPTIC CLUES

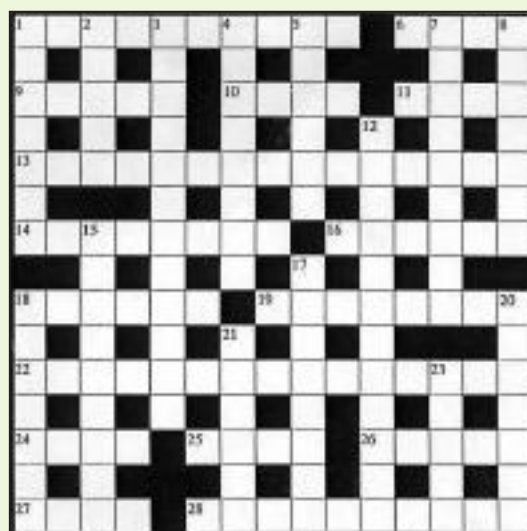
#### ACROSS

- 1 Opposite features, couple reportedly included (4-2-4)
- 6 Freezer once held nothing (4)
- 9 Vessel in annexe becalmed (5)
- 10 Boss elephant did not start (4)
- 11 Bill concerning area of land (4)
- 13 I'll show eighteen round while making things run smoothly (6,3,6)
- 14 Get even with (8)
- 16 Small company utilise Liverpoolian (6)
- 18 Silver found in new boot on island (6)
- 19 Angry when her colic developed (8)
- 22 Don't eat off this every day (10,5)
- 24 Marco's game (4)
- 25 Nameless soon (4)
- 26 Bear has book on bankruptcy (5)
- 27 Ride, say, from island resort (4)
- 28 I name elastic that's unyielding (10)

#### DOWN

- 1 Reynard should be at home here (7)
- 2 Accountant, graduate left small party (5)
- 3 Scientist got in clothes, dishevelled (12)
- 4 Sue Croft removed fruit-sugar (8)
- 5 Might horseflies be caught in it? (6)
- 7 Poor Rex accepted payment from treasury (9)
- 8 Where bishop is to supervise (7)
- 12 Pretty romantic food container (9-3)
- 15 Straightened up having removed one's sandals (9)
- 17 Little bits of shell removed from Len's harp (8)
- 18 Scouts hesitantly find one swearing? (7)
- 20 This Parisian tends to be included during purge (7)
- 21 Take part of Joseph that's trendy and in fashion (4,2)
- 23 Indistinctness of second-class book-jacket's contents (5)

### SCRIBBLE HERE



### QUICK CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 Writing materials (10)
- 6 Scare away (4)
- 9 Civet (anag.) (5)
- 10 Undulating (4)
- 11 Swelling on eyelid (4)
- 13 HC (6,9)
- 14 Muckiest (8)
- 16 Spout (6)
- 18 Blazer (6)
- 19 Leave behind (8)
- 22 Royal official (4,11)
- 24 Rainbow goddess (4)
- 25 Leave shore (4)
- 26 Hertfordshire town (5)

- 27 Philosophic meditation (4)
- 28 Cut of beef or pork (10)

#### DOWN

- 1 Boiled (7)
- 2 Dropping from a team (5)
- 3 Mental brightness (12)
- 4 TV bulletin (8)
- 5 Patch up (6)
- 7 French Riviera (4,5)
- 8 Foot-lever (7)
- 12 Protester (12)
- 15 Registering (9)
- 17 Prevaricated (8)
- 18 Gaiety (7)
- 20 King-pin (anag.) (4,3)
- 21 Front (6)
- 23 Spanish friend (5)

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

### SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No36

EASY

3	4	6	7	2	9	8	1	5
1	8	7	5	6	4	9	3	2
9	2	5	3	1	8	4	7	6
6	8	9	2	7	3	5	4	1
7	5	1	4	9	6	3	2	8
2	3	4	8	5	1	7	9	6
5	9	2	1	4	7	6	8	3
6	7	8	9	3	2	1	5	4
4	1	3	6	8	5	2	9	7

MEDIUM

8	9	1	3	2	4	6	7	5
7	6	2	1	9	5	8	4	3
4	3	5	8	7	6	1	2	9
3	4	6	7	1	8	5	9	2
2	8	9	6	5	3	4	1	7
1	5	7	2	4	9	3	8	6
9	7	4	6	3	1	2	5	8
6	1	8	9	5	2	7	3	4
5	2	3	4	8	7	9	6	1

HARD

7	1	5	2	8	3	4	9	6
3	2	9	4	6	1	7	8	5
4	6	8	5	9	7	2	1	3
9	8	3	6	7	5	1	4	2
6	4	2	3	1	9	8	5	7
1	5	7	8	4	2	6	3	9
8	3	4	7	5	6	9	2	1
2	7	9	2	4	3	6	8	5
2	6	6	1	3	8	5	7	4

### CRYPTIC SOLUTION No36

ACROSS: 1 Libra 4 Suspense 8 Know one's onions 10 Fisherman 11 Doric 12 Noel 13 Quietism 17 Giftwrap 18 Kelp 22 Gruff 24 Caretaker 25 Juice extractor 26 Gladstone 27 Tardy. DOWN: 1 Like fun 2 Bookshelf 3 Azores 4 Steamy 5 Scornful 6 Evil-doer 7 Sonar 9 Scam 14 Ice-skater 15 Two-faced 16 Ranchero 17 Gaga 19 Portray 20 Write 21 At last 23 Usual.

### QUICK SOLUTION No37

Across: 1 Stationery 6 Seat 9 Evict 10 Jolly 20 Pink gin 21 Facade 23 Armag. Down: 15 Recording 17 Quibbled 18 Revamp 7 Clue d'azur 8 Treadle 12 2 Pkng 3 Intelligence 4 Newscast 5 Lord Chamberlain 24 Iris 25 Sail 26 Trng 27 Yoga 28 Tenderloin. DOWN: 1 Seethed 16 Nozzle 18 Jacket 19 Outstrip 22 Driest 11 Syle 13 Highly commended 14 Wavy 11 Syle 13 Highly commended 14

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

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## Try unadulterated luxury

BY TOM MASTERS

ON the elegant Seabourn Spirit, we sailed the seas for 17 magical days from Alexandria to Dubai – and found out exactly why this ship is rated among the top six cruising experiences in the world.

Even professionals, captains of industry and international businessmen slow down eventually to enjoy the fruits of successful careers. On the three Seabourn ships – three more join its tiny fleet in 2009-11 – they readily pay £300 per person per day, often more, for something pretty special.

Weighing barely 10,000 tonnes, the Spirit feels more like a megayacht carrying an exclusive party than a superliner.

Carrying just over 200 passengers, Seabourn ships have cornered a niche cruise market dedicated to pure, unadulterated luxury and unbeatable service standards. Yet Seabourn belongs to Carnival, the biggest cruise company in the world, which also owns the P&O and Cunard lines.



**SPARKLING SEA:** The Seabourn Spirit offers the experience of a lifetime

Queuing has been quashed, the irritating business of having to sign for everything delicately set aside, tipping disregarded altogether.

All food, drinks and gratuities are included in the price, so, if you feel decadent, you can have champagne and caviar served poolside every afternoon.

From the moment we boarded Seabourn Spirit in Alexandria (after a rather lengthy coach drive from Cairo) we were indulged

down to the last detail.

There are no cabins on these yachts, just suites.

Here we found every comfort – it was spacious and glamorous, with a marble-clad bathroom and walk-in closet, for those who don't travel light and like to pack a few little extras 'just in case', plush cotton robes and fine Egyptian linen. Add to that crystal glasses, complimentary fine wines, exotic fruit and fresh flowers.

With a 160-strong crew to look after 200 passengers, the level of personal service is stunning.

Nothing was too much trouble and their genuine enthusiasm for the part they played in life was refreshing. We boarded mid-afternoon and by the next morning we were impressed to be greeted by name by every crew member we met on our way to breakfast.

Most Seabourn guests are well-seasoned cruisers and experienced travellers – and they enjoy dressing up. The daily bulletin advises the dress code for each day, between casual, semi-formal or black tie.

The shore excursions, while fascinating, could be expensive, but they were once-in-a-lifetime opportunities; Petra, a nine-hour trip from Aqaba, Jordan, cost \$199 per person and The Valley of the Kings was a two-day, one-night trip from Safage, Egypt and cost \$829.

If you don't fancy the trek it can be just as much fun to enjoy a near-empty ship while others go ashore.

Along the way the ship visited Aqaba, Salalah, Khasab and, finally, Dubai.

On our final day, one passenger reflected: "The only way to stay cheerful at the end of a cruise is to reflect that it won't be too long before you are back on board."

### FACT FILE: EGYPT

Time difference	UK +2 hour
Capital	Cairo
Population	80.3million
Currency	Egyptian pound (10.4 to £1 approx)
Religion	Muslim
Climate	Desert
Language	Arabic

### Holiday details

Tom Masters was a guest of Yachts of Seabourn, which offers the 17-night Alexandria-Dubai voyage in November 2008 from £5,894.50 per person, (two sharing A3 Grade Seabourn Suite). Seven-night Barcelona-Nice voyage from July 12, 2008 starts at £2,567.50 per person incl all tips and gratuities, fine dining, open bar and fully-stocked mini bar, plus one Exclusively Seabourn shore experience. Prices are cruise-only though Seabourn can help with flights and transfers. Seabourn reservations: 0845 070 0500 and [www.seabourn.com](http://www.seabourn.com).



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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Indulge is icing on homebuyers' cake

HOMEBUYERS looking for a boost can take advantage of £1,000 of "indulgences" if they chose a new property from Redrow.

The developer is giving customers the chance to enhance their home with complementary upgrades.

The offer extends to reservations made before this Sunday and comprises £1,000 to spend on items from Redrow's 'Indulge' collection.

Simon Bennett, group marketing director, said: "Our Indulge promotion is the icing on the cake and provides customers with something extra."

"They can use their voucher towards lots of different things, from integrated appliances for their fitted kitchen to granite worktops, ceramic flooring, a stylish fireplace or luxury carpets throughout their new home."

"We think people are fed up of hearing only doom and gloom about the housing market."

"There are still people who need or want to move and we are doing our best to help them."

"Our 'Re:assure' package already offers a range of help, advice and incentives, such as mortgage subsidies, part-exchange, help with stamp duty and legal fees, furniture packs or carpets."

### The greener way to a warm feeling

THOSE looking to buy property with good energy-saving efficiency should cast an eye over the heating and plumbing system.

This could be as important as eco-friendly lightbulbs when it comes to protecting the environment.

Danny Davis, a senior technical engineer for the Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering, said condensing technologies, which generate more heat for less energy, should appeal to green-minded consumers.

He said: "Energy-conscious consumers would certainly be attracted to a house incorporating both energy and water-conserving technologies over a similar house without such measures."

Condensing technology makes boilers at least 10 per cent more efficient than traditional ones.

Since April 2005 it has been a legal requirement for new boilers to comply with a Seasonal Efficiency rating.



Picture: PAUL HODGKINSON

**SLIGHTLY WOODEN:** The traditional image of the shed as a man's cluttered refuge from the world no longer holds true in the post-credit squeeze environment

## It's time for stylish sheds to come out of the closet

FROM humble beginnings, the garden shed has become a must-have accessory for the post-credit crunch property holder.

Traditionally a ramshackle affair which men used as a retreat and a place to pursue hobbies, the shed can now be anything from an outsourced office to a cocktail bar or a gymnasium.

And at a time when extending your home is a risk because of the sell-on value, a shed is far less

■ BY NICK AMES

expensive – and a buyer can turn it into their own particular favourite place at the bottom of the garden.

Estate agents claim houses with sheds are getting more interest from prospective buyers – especially when the building is linked to mains electricity and can be used as a handy place to install a computer.

One analyst said: "The shed has always been regarded as a refuge

for the man of the house and to some extent that is true.

"But the old image of a place full of old garden equipment is not the case now."

"I have seen sheds with espresso machines in them, even flatscreen TVs with DVD players."

"At a time when space in the home is important and value for money is everything when it comes to a sale, a place which is far cheaper in cost than an additional room is very attractive."

"While a purpose-built gym might sell a house to a keep fit fanatic, a gym in a shed which can

be turned into a cocktail bar or a laundry room or freezer store is attractive to all."

And for those working "out of the shed" it has a good pedigree.

Dylan Thomas wrote in a shed, while George Bernard Shaw worked on plays in a shed which could be rotated during the day to follow the course of the sun.

Police have also noticed the greater use of sheds – through an increase in burglaries.

Officers and insurance companies say sheds should be secured and fitted with an alarm if they contain anything of value.

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## ST. MARYS ISLAND

**MEADOWSWEET VIEW**

- Six Bedroom Detached Home • Double Sized Garage • Located In A Private Cul-de-sac

ref: 527124380

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**HENRIETTA CHASE**

- Ground Floor Purpose Built Home • Two Double Bedrooms • Open Plan Kitchen/Lounge Area

ref: 527125696

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**ISLAND WAY EAST**

- Top Floor Purpose Built Flat • Located On St Mary's Island • Viewing Recommended

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**ST JOHNS**

- Two Double Bedroom Semi Detached • Through Lounge • Fitted Kitchen • Garage

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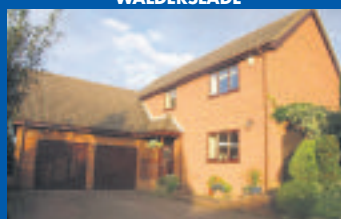
- Semi Detached House In Village Location • 67 X 34 Approx Rear Garden • Off Street Parking

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**£179,995** HOO ☎ 01634 253322**HOO MARINA PARK VICARAGE LANE**

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**£64,950** HOO ☎ 01634 253322**RYEGRASS CLOSE**

- Four Bedroom Detached House • Fitted Kitchen & Utility Room • Master Bedroom With En-suite

ref: 527265623

**£379,995** WALDESLADE ☎ 01634 685041**LARCHWOOD CLOSE**

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ref: 527255104

**£154,000** WALDESLADE ☎ 01634 685041

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## GILLINGHAM

79 Balmoral Road

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## HOO

13a Main Road

☎ 01634  
253322

## RAINHAM

84 High Street

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370477

## ROCHESTER

17 High Street

☎ 01634  
844205

## STROOD

137 High Street

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## WALDESLADE

385 Walderslade Road

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685041



# Elmfield House

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A sympathetic conversion of an imposing mansion to provide 5 luxury apartments, oozing with original charm and contemporary style.

Each apartment offers a high quality specification which includes integrated kitchens, stunning bathrooms, flooring and parking.

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Rarely available, these well-planned homes will each enjoy their own private gardens as well as landscaped areas within the development.

Tucked away from the main road, Yew Tree Court will provide a private and pleasant place to live and relax.

- ✓ 2 Principal bedrooms
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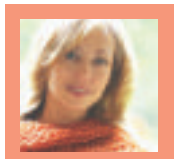
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You can choose to text the member's 6-digit box number followed by a space, then your message (max of 160 characters) and send to **82250** e.g. 654321 Hi my name is... Normal network rates apply to send messages. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message.

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## WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT

### TWO LIPS FROM AMSTERDAM

I'm a tall, blonde half-Dutch woman, 27, love swimming, power-walking and music, festivals! Looking for a lovely man with GSOH, for something special! Box 893230 **1**

### ANOTHER GLASS?

28yr old female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'10", slim, attractive, GSOH, love evenings out with wine, seeking similar gent to fall in love with! Box 440215 **1**

### TAKE ME OUT

Fun, flirty female, nearly 30, petite with dark hair, bored of being single, seeking someone to take me out and show me a good time. Box 895949 **1**

### ALL IN GOOD TIME

Tall, black, pretty female, 31, new to the Chatham area, loves watching football, shopping, travel; seeking tall, white, loving male 34-47 for LTR. Box 437778 **1**

## See online for:

### • Success Stories

Read or write your own Success Story. Our members have been keen to write about their stories and how they met - who knows, their stories may help you in your search! We are always glad to hear from you.

• **Increase your dating success**  
Online, say more about yourself and your perfect partner with our extended profile, add extra photos to your profile, even change your ad's colour! It makes for a great dating advert that other people are bound to like!

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If you can't find who you're looking for on our page here, you will find so many more members online. Browse, read, hear and see members.

[www.people2people.co.uk/kos.asp](http://www.people2people.co.uk/kos.asp)

### ARE YOU MR RIGHT?

Single Mum, 30, 5'2", short brown hair, petite, loves pubs, clubs, eating out, nights in, seeking Mr Right for friendship, maybe more. Box 437895 **1**

### TAKE ME OUT

Single Mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5'6", dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks and meals with more. Box 438941 **1**

### UNDER THE BOARDWALK

Black female, 32, 5'6", likes cooking, reading, going out, WLM a nice man 34-50, downbeat and fun to be with, to find out more. Box 438885 **1**

### CUDLY

32yr old woman, 5'9, brown hair, curvy figure, I enjoy having fun and a laugh and WLM nice, kind gent. Box 439402 **1**

### EQUESTRIAN OF SPORT!

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **1**

### FUN-LOVING

attractive female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **1**

### CANTERBURY TALE

Single mum of 2, 32, WLM someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call/leave contact details! Box 406570 **1**

### WANNABE RIDE MY BIKE?

Yolanda, 34, 5'5", fair hair, blue eyes, hard working, Loves to walk my dog and ride my motorbike. Would you like to join me? Box 892927 **1**

### R U THE 1?

Outgoing, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5'3", brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge. Seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 431077 **1**

### TRY NEW THINGS

Mum of 1, I'm 5'8", blonde hair, slim, young looking, 34yrs old, I'm caring, honest, with a GSOH. I like keep-fit, cinema, dancing, days out. Box 431559 **1**

### THE GENTLE LADY

Easygoing female with GSOH, 36, enjoys many things - going out, staying in, seeking a nice, genuine guy for lots of love and laughter. Box 437913 **1**

### ROMANCE IS ALIVE

Divorced, lively mum, 35, GSOH, I enjoy time with my family and friends, cinema, good food, beach walks, seeks male for honesty, love and romance. Box 813930 **1**

### DON'T PASS ME BY

Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983 **1**

### YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **1**

### ROUND TWO

41yr old female, separated with 3 children, medium build, dark hair, seeking a male to share life with again who enjoys socialising, cinema, music and holidays! Box 437639 **1**

### YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL

Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, WLM a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102 **1**

### SWEET CAROLINE

Caroline, 42, single mum, likes having fun, eating out, wine bars, swimming, looking for someone for something meaningful. Box 430952 **1**

### JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **1**

### WARMTH, COMPASSION, TRUTH, KINDNESS

Sarina, 49, 5'8", medium build, blonde, green eyes, I like cinema, drinks, beach walks, countryside, P.O.I., concerts, seeking similar male for lasting love and happiness. Box 892450 **1**

### LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE

Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892642 **1**

### ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48 fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50, Aylesford. Box 428833 **1**

### DIG DEEPER

Genuine, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nightclubs, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55, Dover Box 435441 **1**

### HERE WE GO

Young female, 50, 5'15", slim, bubbly, outgoing, GSOH, loves animals, cinema, eating out, seeking a genuine, caring male 45-55 for friendship & more. Box 439607 **1**

### ENTERTAIN ME

49yr old female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular wining, dining, loving and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 **1**

### LET'S CREATE OUR OWN WORLD

Hi guys I'm 5'6", blonde with slim figure, 50, love dancing, meals and drinks, seeking similar males to find true love with. Box 440426 **1**

### CARING FOR YOU

Hiya I'm Sandra, 50, 5'17", blonde hair, blue eyes, a care worker, 1 daughter, loves swimming, meals, theatre/cinema, nights in, seeking honest, trustworthy, reliable male. Box 440321 **1**

### SEEKING MR RIGHT

I'm Karen, 51, 5'8", blonde, blue-eyed, medium build, VGSOH, considerate, like keeping fit, romantic nights in/out, bowling, tennis, lots of sports, seeking male for relationship! Box 892277 **1**

### PUTTER IN YOUR HANDS!

Sporty female, 50, Hastings-based, 5'8", blonde/blue, enjoys golf, walking, socialising, eating in/out, WLM fun-loving, kind, sporty male, 48-60, 5'10", to share life. Box 165367 **1**

### LAST CHANCE?

Lively, understanding female, 51, large build, WLM genuine, loving male, 46-58, for lasting, loving relationship. Faversham. Box 399271 **1**

### ON A PLATE

Can, petite 48yr old female, 5'2", blue-eyed, blonde, redhead, Likes cinema, theatre, walking, WLM male for friendship. Box 895928 **1**

### SOFA SO GOOD!

40yr old female, small and slim, brown hair with hazel eyes, likes music, films, animals, days out and snuggling on the sofa, seeking similar male. Box 893566 **1**

### BOWL A MAIDSTONE OVER!

Kind, loving female, 44, blonde, 5'4", medium/curvy build, likes reading, live music, countryside, walks, seeks similar, adventurous male for happy times together. Kent. Box 805846 **1**

### MAKE ME LAUGH

Lovely, bored, professional Tunbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLM slim, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, friendship first. Box 440304 **1**

### RESTORE MY FAITH

Hello, I'm 41, a single mum, professional, Christian, lacking confidence and looking to meet someone to share my life with and be there for me. Box 439849 **1**

### LET'S TAKE A RIDE

Hi, I'm Laura, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLM gentlemen interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles and perhaps love! Box 403987 **1**

### LOVE CANNOT BE BOUGHT

Happy, fit, youthful 48yr old single mum, OHAC, very good sense of humour. Likes all the normal social things. Very honest. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent man. Box 895929 **1**

### JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **1**

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### RESTORE MY FAITH

Hello, I'm 41, a single mum, professional, Christian, lacking confidence and looking to meet someone to share my life with and be there for me. Box 439849 **1**

### KENT CALLING!

Hi, I'm kind, caring, attractive lady, 53yr young, 5'7", brown hair/eyes, GSOH, enjoy walks, reading, travelling etc. WLM tall, considerate man for friendship, possibly LTR. Box 439240 **1**

### GIVE & TAKE THE FUN & GAMES...

Hello, I'm 54, 5'6", size 12-14, a nurse, enjoy long walks, seeking a man to put some fun in my life as I will his... Box 440352 **1**

### THE UNIVERSITY OF LOVE

Hi, I'm 56, 5'6", large build (working on that!), fun-loving, well educated, like the outdoors, walking my dogs, seeking intelligent man to share life with. Box 440351 **1**

### LIKES THE NICE THINGS IN LIFE

Divorced female, 50's, 5'14, own home, great job and friends, likes to keep fit, hobbies include shopping, cooking, dining out, theatre/cinema, holidays, seeking friendship and more. Box 434901 **1**

### COUNTRY LOVE

Partially disabled 58yr old country woman, 5'5", fairly attractive, enjoys gardening, home life, WLM country loving man for company and possibly LTR. Box 439065 **1**

### CHOOSE ME

Caring female, 57, enjoys family-life, car-bad sales, going out, beach walks, looking for male, 55 plus, for true love. Box 374845 **1**

### JOINT ADVENTURES

Looking for a fun, spontaneous, easygoing lady, with a GSOH, I'm 38, honest and loyal. Helen, aged 26, please call back with number. Box 428701 **1**

### WAYNE'S WORLD

Wayne, 41, 5'11", dark hair, blue/green eyes, likes walks, restaurants, cinema; seeking honest, loyal, loving, tactile, feminine mind who likes dancing, fun and sharing life... Box 412592 **1**

### TRY ME

Good-looking male 39, 5'10", dark hair, green eyes, slim toned, 12st, seeks curvy, feminine female, to share high life and happiness. Box 516461 **1**

### WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET

Hi, I'm 40, great personality, mad SOH, divorced, own business, very caring and loveable, seeking a pretty slim girl who likes to have a laugh! Box 437354 **1**

### I'LL BE YOUR MIRROR

Slim, nice-looking male, 44, smoker, loves psychédelic 60s music, cinema and a quiet drink, seeks fair, caring, kind female, 30-45, for friendship and loving times. Folkestone. Box 367907 **1**

### SAME AGAIN

Intelligent male, 43, 5'9", GSOH, OHAC, slim, enjoys meals out, travel, good life, socialising, seeks sincere, attractive female, 28-40s, for initial friendship, fun, hopefully more. Box 431013 **1**

### STROLLS ALONG THE BEACH

Hi I'm Richard, 43, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'8", medium build, very loving, like holidays, cinema, music, restaurants, beaches; seeking female 34-57 for love & relationship. Box 440300 **1**

### NOT MUCH TO ASK

42-year-old, single man, 5'8", slim, N/S, from N Ireland, love walks, conversation, socialising, seeking a female 45-55, caring, likes unimpaired for possible loving future. Box 438291 **1**

### VEGETARIAN

44yr old sociable, single dad, tall, fit, black hair, love cooking, countryside, animals, looking for a caring and loving female, GSOH for friendship and LTR. Box 434684 **1**

### LOOKING FOR LOVE

Genuine, caring male, 43, 6ft, N/S, own home/car, varied interest. WLM caring female, 37-45, for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 72087 **1**

### DO NOT FURTHER

I'm Tom, 44, blue-eyed, slim, 5'5", a single dad of 1 from Eastbourne, I like swimming, motorbikes, clubs, having fun and I'm looking for love! Box 394758 **1**

### RED OR WHITE?

40-year-old gay woman, likes nice wine, candlelight, the sea, passionate people and places, muddy walks and cosy nights in, WLM gay woman for friendship/relationship. Box 894541 **1**

### SENSUAL HEALING

49yrs young female, genuine, 5'2, medium build, blonde, looking to meet sensual, feminine lady, up to 55, with great figure, for sensual fun. Box 438851 **1**

### ATTRACTIVE

Bubbly lady, 52, 5'6", blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship Box 414143 **1**

### WILL SPOIL YOU ROTTEN

46yr old German male, 6'8", looking for a nice, tall, medium build, open-minded female to spoil and fall in love with. Dover. Box 440357 **1**

### LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU

58yr old male, 6ft, brown hair hazel eyes, medium build, active, likes football, clubs, pubs, cosy nights in, seeking witty, caring, trustworthy female. Box 437263 **1**

### LIVELY UP YOURSELF

Sincere, kind-hearted, passionate, blue-eyed, cooking, seeking lady to see what happens! Box 438361 **1**

### SOCIAL NICETIES

Peter, 47 from Kent, a lorry driver, 5'8", stocky, blue eyes, WLM happy-go-lucky females 25-45 for social pleasures and see what happens! Box 440431 **1**



## MOTORS NEWS



### Weekend will be a real money-saver for drivers

WITH fuel prices exceeding a record £5 per gallon, Kent BMW dealers are staging an EfficientDynamics Open Weekend (31 May/1 June) where drivers of all car makes and models can get a free check-up that could save them up to £120 a year.

Bookings can be made via [www.bmw.co.uk](http://www.bmw.co.uk) and 'EfficientDynamics' – BMW's shorthand for simple money savers, but it also stands for new BMW technologies such as Start/Stop and Brake Energy Regeneration on new BMW models like the BMW 118d pictured, saving up to £520 a year.



### Cyclists get Grand help in French charity ride

MOTOR power from Canterbury Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge dealer Dutton Forshaw boosted pedal power on the fifth annual Lady Mayoress' Charity Cycle Ride from Calais to Arras.

The Broad Oak Road dealership supplied a Chrysler Grand Voyager support vehicle 40 cyclists raising funds for The Paula Carr Trust and Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal.

Pictured left to right are: Dutton-Forshaw dealer principal Lynne Kennard and site receptionist Hannah Main, Canterbury Mayoress Lesley Windsor and Canterbury City Council officer Angela Furlong.

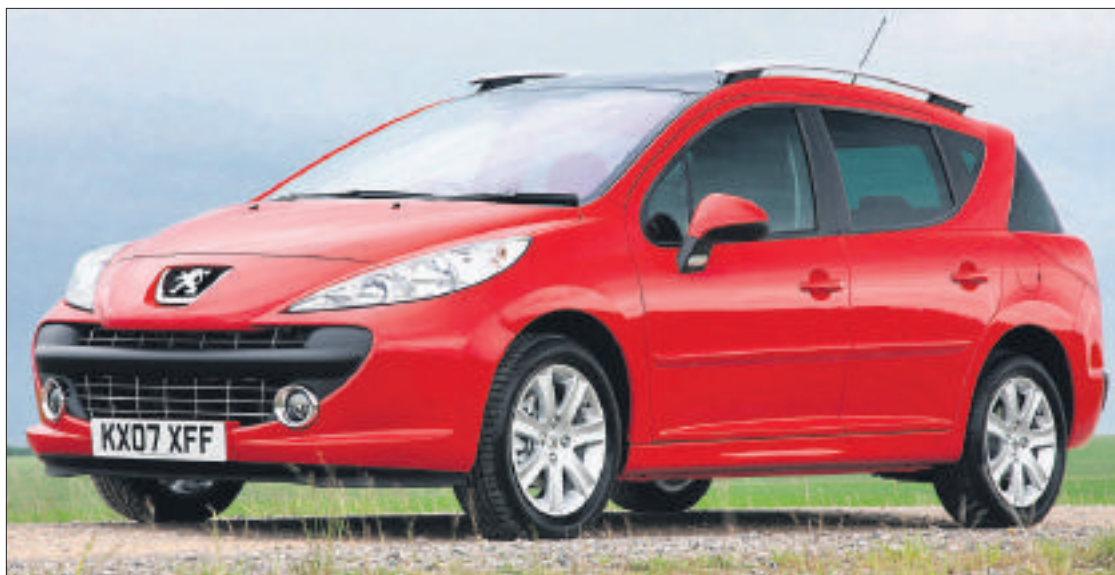


### Adam becomes expert dealer number three

ASHFORD Motorline Renault executive Adam George, 23, has gained Motability accreditation (pictured) enabling him to give industry-recognised advice to disabled customers.

Adam, from Woodchurch, becomes the Hilton Road site's third Motability specialist able to help customers or nominated drivers to find the right model to suit their needs or guide them to converters who can carry out necessary adaptations on the cars.

"I'm really pleased I now have Motability accreditation," he said.



**LOOKER:** For a car where space is a priority, the 207 SW also looks chic with raked rear pillar and aluminium roof rails complementing lines derived from one of the market's sharpest looking superminis

## Peugeot 207 SW says 'vive la MPV difference'

PEUGEOT has thought 'outside the box' on the MPV phenomenon.

While sister brand Citroën embraced the concept wholeheartedly, Peugeot avoided the typical 'one-box' MPV design and evolved its own 'space/sports wagon' or SW approach.

OK, you might dismiss our 207 SW test model as an estate car on steroids, but this offers almost everything a small MPV does except a higher driving position while delivering the benefit of car-like driving manners – something few MPVs can boast.

For a car where space is a priority, the 207 SW also looks chic with its raked rear pillar and aluminium roof rails complementing lines derived from one of the market's sharpest looking superminis.

And where Peugeot interiors sometimes failed to match the exterior, the 207 range marked a major change; the 207 SW's cabin is a genuinely pleasant environment, no doubt helped by the huge 'Cielo' full-length glass roof that comes as standard.

Plastics are attractive and durable; the neat gauges have chrome bezels on the higher grade Sport models and there is a lot of class

## ROAD TEST PEUGEOT 207 SW

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

alloy detail, although the centre display surround can reflect and distract from the view through the windscreen.

For a car competing with MPVs, interior stowage is also poor with small door pockets and a tiny glovebox – there is little room to stash CDs.

However, the boot is large for this class of car with a low loading threshold, while head and legroom for rear passengers is excellent – the cabin remains airy even with the electrically-powered roof blind in place.

You also quickly forget any minor grumbles when driving the 207SW: it has a lovely engine and gearbox and the car carries over the driver enjoyment of the main 207 hatchback range.

Grip is tenacious and the car keeps it poised on corners where a conventional high-set MPV would heel as if under sail.

If you enjoy driving, but have to yield to practicality for work, family, sport or canine reasons then this little load-lugging Peugeot offers more than a small MPV, without a loss of style or street cred.

• Email [steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk)



SEE MOTORSTV FOR  
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BY STEVE LOADER @  
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## USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### SMALL FAMILY ESTATES/HOLDALLS

**carsfor Kent.co.uk**

SMALL MPVs have become hot property in the used car market as manageable family holdalls that are flexible and cheap to run. But not everyone likes the utilitarian 'one-box' styling, so we have chosen three used cars that have a little more style about them. The Citroën Xsara Picasso is technically another one-box design, but manages to stand out from the crowd, while the other two contenders here are more like conventional estates plus a dash of style. All three are available with decent and frugal diesel engines too...

#### FORD FOCUS ESTATE



NOT to be confused with the Focus C-Max MPV – another excellent alternative here – the standard estate offers that excellent Focus driving experience plus extra load lugging capacity. The Mark I estate is not as stylish as its replacement, but is the more practical and there is plenty of choice in the market; the arrival of the popular C-Max has made the Mark II estate a rarer item, but sought after second-hand for its neat and classy rear end styling.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### PEUGEOT 206SW



HERE is an MPV for people who do not want a car that looks like an MPV. Peugeot has a recent tradition for developing SW models that are really blown up estates with the space and versatility to attack rival MPVs without the penalty of being unwieldy or ugly. The 206SW is affordable with all the handling panache of the 206 hatch – Peugeot's best-selling model ever – and can be bought with one of the French marque's enviable diesel engines.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### CITROËN PICASSO



LINES sometimes described as 'jelly mould' have not stopped the Picasso from being the best-selling midi-MPV for much of its life – it stands out from the crowd and is airy and spacious inside. Refinement and ride are good, although the latter also makes the handling feel woolly on the corners. There is the extra bonus of smooth and frugal diesel options too and, with lots of new Picassos sold, used car hunters are spoilt for choice and price.

##### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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**146 TI, 5 door, p 1996, 2 owners** from new with full service history. 2.0i engine produces 150bhp, 5 speed manual gearbox. px is available against this car, red, 94000 miles, £1495, Courtenay Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714948 (TRADE)

**AUDI**

**TT, QUATTRO, 577461, remote central locking, electric mirrors, e/w, air bag, abs, head restraints, full leather, metallic paintwork, central locking, multi-disc cd player, climate control, alloys, 4x4, olive green, 76000 miles, £3995, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)**

**BENTLEY**

**ARNAGE, RED LABEL AUTO, 2001, blenheim silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)**

**BMW**

**318, 2003, mauritius blue, 25478 miles, £9995, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)**

**CHRYSLER**

**300C, 5.7V8 AUTO ESTATE, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)**

**PT CRUISER 2LITRE LIMITED** auto petrol 2004 (54 plate) 35,000 miles, inferno red leather and suede interior air con central locking chrome wheels MOT Tl September Tax tl August £5995 01227 374023

**CITROEN**

**CITROEN BERLINGO 900, 04/2005, 1.9d lx side door white pas 43,000 miles fsh lined, £4800, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)**

**DAEWOO**

**NUBIRA 4 door saloon, 06/2000, 1.6 p se mot july 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)**

**DAIHATSU**

**CHARADE, 1.0 SL 5dr Hatchback, 07/2004, £3995, Chertlon Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)**

**FIAT**

**PANDA, DYNAMIC, 2004, yellow, £3995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)**

**FORD**

**FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Style Climate, 2007, moon dust silver, 0 miles, £8995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)**

**HONDA**

**ACCORD, CDI EXECUTIVE, 2005, trim: leather engine size: 2200 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, grey, 33000 miles, £11995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 285554 (TRADE)**

**HYUNDAI**

**ACCENT 1.3, 2002, silver, 41625 miles, £2995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)**

**JAGUAR**

**S-TYPE, 3.0 V6 SE, 2001, star silver, 53000 miles, £5000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)**

**JEEP**

**GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)**

**KIA**

**CERATO, LX, gk052w, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, air bag, cd player, radio, black, 42000 miles, £4990, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)**

**LAND ROVER**

**FREELANDER, 2001, blue metallic with grey, 61500 miles, £4495, UJM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)**

**LEXUS**

**GS 300 SE, 511461, full leather, cd player, climate control, metallic paintwork, rear headrests, abs, air bag, radio, electric windows, electric mirrors, power steering, immobiliser, remote alarm, electric seats, 16" alloys, grey, 90000 miles, £7999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)**

**MAZDA**

**323F, SE, 2000, silver, 41000 miles, £3995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)**

**MERCEDES-BENZ**

**230 SPORT KOMPRESSOR, 1998, fantastic car with full ivory leather interior! full sport pack. lilac/blue, 57, 000 miles, £5999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)**

**MG**

**MGTF, 1.8 135 16V 2dr, 10/06/2002, grey, 44598 miles, £5499, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)**

**MINI**

**COOPER, 1.6, 2003, alloys drivers airbag electric mirrors e/w immobiliser passenger airbag pas rear electric windows remote central locking service history, aluminium silver, 48000 miles, £3800, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)**

**MITSUBISHI**

**L 200, 09/2006, 2.5 td d-td 4 life 4x4 pick up air /con 9.000 miles day cab met blue, £9995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)**

**NISSAN**

**NISSAN PRIMASTAR 2700 SE, 09/2006, 1.9 dci 100 swb elec windows 6 speed cd blue 5,000 miles as new, £9695, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)**

**MICRA, CELEBRATION LTD EDN, 2000, celebration special editions; manual 3 door; green, body coloured bumpers; driver's airbag; folding rear seats; front head restraints; immobiliser; isofix child seat anchor points; long mot; low insurance; great condition; green, 29000 miles, £1650, Folkestone, 01303 240796 (PRIVATE)**

**PEUGEOT**

**PEUGEOT EXPERT 815, 09/2005, 1.9d 3 seats twin doors 40.000 miles lined met silver, £6795, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)**

**PORSCHE**

**911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)**

**PROTON**

**PERSONA, 1.5 GLSi Saloon 4d 1468cc auto, s 1999, electric windows, power assisted steering, drivers airbag, sunroof, remote mirrors, radio cassette, green, miles, £1995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)**

**RENAULT**

**RENAULT KANGOO s17 70 +, 01 2006, 1.5 dci side door met silver elec pack 41,000 miles fsh manufacturers warranty, £4975, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)**

**ROVER**

**200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)**

**SAAB**

**9-3, LINEAR TID 1.9, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, alloy wheels. 32,000 miles, £3,495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)**

**SEAT**

**IBIZA, 1.4 DAB 5dr, 09/09/2006, cd player driver airbag power steering electric windows, grey, 17999 miles, £2829, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)**

**LEON, 2006, luna grey, 13156 miles, £12495, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)**

**SUBARU**

**IMPREZA, WRX TURBO, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)**

**TOYOTA**

**MR2, 2.0, 369461, full leather, power steering, central locking, abs, air bag, electric windows, twin sunroofs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, 15" alloys, aluminium/silver/black, 73000 miles, £4499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)**

**CELICA, VVTi, 2006, red, 20000 miles, £11495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)**

**VAUXHALL**

**CORSA, 2002, green, 53303 miles, £3495, WJ King Vauxhall, Swanley, 01322 262890 (TRADE)**

**VOLKSWAGEN**

**PASSAT, 1.9 TDI SE, 2006, 53,000 miles, £10995, UJM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)**

**PASSAT, SE 2.0 TDI 140ps, 2005, reflex silver with charcoal high velour, 42000 miles, £11995, UJM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)**

**POLo, 1.2 E 55 3dr (2002 - 2005), 20/12/2005, cd player abs driver airbag immobiliser electric windows, red, 17192 miles, £5499, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)**

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**VOLVO**

**C70, 2.3 TS GT 2dr Auto, abs, air bag, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, cruise control, heated seats, alloy wheels, silver, 69621 miles, £8999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)**



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We are seeking to recruit an experienced Travel Consultant to operate a fully ABTA bonded agency based at our Rochester site. The ideal candidate will have 2-3 years retail travel experience and be able to provide a comprehensive range of travel services to students, college staff and the general public. The consultant will work alongside the Travel & Tourism department in Mid Kent College to provide a training environment for students who are studying a range of Travel & Tourism qualifications. The successful candidate will have excellent communication skills, ability to work on own initiative or part of a team, excellent customer service skills and be able to demonstrate a positive and friendly approach.

The College selection process will reflect our commitment to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults and any offer of employment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and List 99 clearance.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk) quoting the appropriate job title.

**Closing date: Friday, 30 May 2008**

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

**CHANDLERY SALES PERSON**  
Some boating experience desirable  
5 day week including weekend work on a rota

Apply **Gillingham Marina:**  
Tel: 01634 280022  
Email: [berthing@gillingham-marina.co.uk](mailto:berthing@gillingham-marina.co.uk)

**Teachers Urgently Required**

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**Domestic Appliance Engineers**

**2 Technicians required ASAP for Mid/East Kent.**  
We are looking for Technicians with full multi skills in washing and cooking appliances.

One Technician to be Corgi qualified and One Technician to be System Refrigeration trained. We offer a good rate of pay, up to 5 weeks holiday plus bank holidays, health care, pension, workwear and van with air conditioning.

Please contact: **01233 613461**  
Email: [service@ashbridgedomestic.co.uk](mailto:service@ashbridgedomestic.co.uk)

We are Mid Kent's official agents for Electrolux/Zanussi/AEG

**Caring about You...**

With an ever increasing volume of work, we need additional Carers, Support Workers & Nurses to join our agency team

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- + Varied, Flexible Work
- + Days, Nights, Weekends
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Incorporating CARER+

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Canterbury: 01227 782070  
Maidstone: 01622 756348  
Or for Community Care: 01303 250200  
Own transport needed

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[www.education-sense.com](http://www.education-sense.com)

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**URGENTLY REQUIRED L.G.V 1, 2 & NON L.G.V DRIVERS, DAYS, NIGHTS & WEEKENDS**

We have vacancies throughout Kent. You need to be over the age of 25 and have no more than 6 points on your licence for insurance reasons. In return we offer 24 days paid holiday (pro rata), uniform and regular work.

For more information please call Anna on 08450 525267.

Top rates of pay  
Breathing Life Into The Recruitment Industry  
[www.curzonplacerecruitment.com](http://www.curzonplacerecruitment.com)

To advertise in this section **01303 817040**

**BODY PERSON/COACH BUILDER**

Arriva is one of the UK's largest bus operators and in Southern Counties we have a fleet of 620 vehicles and some 1,800 staff based at 14 depots serving customers in the Essex, Sussex, Surrey and Kent areas.

We currently have a vacancy for a Body Person/Coach Person at Maidstone Depot, reporting directly to the Engineering Manager.

**You will assist with daily activities that will include:**

- Body repairs to our fleet
- Accident repairs
- Preparation for repaints

**Personal qualities should include:**

- High quality vehicle coachwork repairs and presentation standards
- Quality bodywork repairs and fabrication skills
- Flexible approach to hours of work
- Self-motivated
- Adherence with all H & S matters
- Clean driving licence; experience of driving large vehicles preferred but not essential

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter to: **Mr Bob Taylor, Engineering Manager, Arriva Southern Counties, Invicta House, Armstrong Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6TX.**

**Closing date for applications is: Tuesday 27th May 2008**

Arriva is committed to diversity. If you're good you're welcome.

Committed to delivering a better service **ARRIVA**

**Kent Police Authority**

**Ensuring the best possible policing service across Kent and Medway**

**£8,000 – part time from October 2008**

Kent Police Authority is an independent body that oversees Kent Police. We're looking for people from across Kent and Medway to join as Independent Members. You will play a key role in holding Kent Police to account on behalf of the public.

- You will be expected to attend all Authority meetings and challenge and question senior Kent Police officers and staff. You will attend appropriate designated committees and participate in public consultation on local policing issues.
- You will be expected to keep abreast of developments in both local and national policing. You will be required to present a broad range of local communities and constructively challenge accepted views.
- Good communication skills are essential as some public speaking will be required and you will be representing the Authority in discussions with interested parties. You should be able to demonstrate relevant skills, experience and knowledge, for example in management, business, finance, strategic IT and community or race-relations.

A commitment of up to two days per week is required, for which an allowance and expenses are payable. This post will last until March 2013. You need to be over 18, live or work within Kent and Medway (and have done so for at least a year prior to appointment) and not be otherwise disqualified.

Kent Police Authority welcomes applications from all eligible people from all backgrounds.

**For more detailed information and an application pack call 01622 677 055 or email [memberappointments@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:memberappointments@kent.pnn.police.uk)**  
Closing date is 9 June 2008.



## the University of Greenwich at Medway PART TIME SYSTEMS DEVELOPER (FIXED TERM)

Ref: 00965/K3

Working as part of a multi-disciplined friendly team, the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) wishes to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide IT support.

You will support the Systems Development Manager in the development and maintenance of NRI's Business and Marketing Systems, including assisting in related development and training. Experienced in SQL database development, you will develop new modules and enhance the existing systems using UNIX scripts, perl, PHP and MySQL. You will perform basic operations procedures to ensure the effective and secure operation of NRI's UNIX servers.

With experience of modern web design, you will help to develop and maintain NRI's website to professional standards and provide support to staff in the development of discrete project-related websites.

This post is fixed term for one year and the hours of work are 17.5 per week.

Salary pro-rata to £23,002 – £27,486 per annum

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website [www.gre.ac.uk](http://www.gre.ac.uk), email: [jobs@gre.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@gre.ac.uk) or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5:00 pm on 23 May 2008.



## Hair Stylist F/t Job in Ashford, Kent

Position available with Sensory Spa  
(Bannatyne Group)

Salary: depending on experience and qualifications  
Contract type: Permanent

Bannatyne's health clubs are the largest independently owned health club operator in the UK, offering state of the art facilities in 62 convenient locations to over 180,000 members.

Working for the Company is much more than just a job; dedicated to their members, the Company employs people who are passionate about the business. Club environments are both exciting and enjoyable.

Bannatyne's Health Club are looking for an experienced Hair Stylist to work on a freelance / Chair rental basis alongside their established Sensory Spa Hair Salon stylist.

Applicants should have at least 3 years experience and be qualified to a minimum of NVQ Level 2.

To apply, please send your full CV and covering letter to Tiffney at [sensory.ashford@bannatyne.co.uk](mailto:sensory.ashford@bannatyne.co.uk)

## COLLECTORS REQD ASAP

18+ years,  
car & telephone essential  
Training given,  
Fee/Comm based

Please call:

Mark on - 07966 968128/  
01634 304278 or  
Dave on - 07966 965809

Cheyne Middle School, Jefferson Road, Sheerness, Kent ME12 2PU  
(01795 662474)

## Teacher of KS3 Science

required for September 2008. This is a permanent position at Cheyne - the school is being reorganised in July 2009 and from September 2009 will be a secondary school (probably an academy).

There is the possibility of a TLR (2c or 2a) for the right candidate. Applications from NQTs are welcome.

To discuss this opportunity further please contact  
Mrs M Snelling (Acting Headteacher) or email  
[maggie@cheyne.kent.sch.uk](mailto:maggie@cheyne.kent.sch.uk)  
Closing date 30 May 2008

## EVER THOUGHT OF RUNNING YOUR OWN PUB?

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AT  
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WEDNESDAY 28TH MAY 2008  
10.00AM - 6.00PM

COME AND MEET US TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL  
WHAT WE CAN OFFER

PLEASE CALL LINDA REECE TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT ON  
01795 542132 [WWW.SHEPHERDNEAME.CO.UK](http://WWW.SHEPHERDNEAME.CO.UK)  
EMAIL: [LREECE@SHEPHERD-NEAME.CO.UK](mailto:LREECE@SHEPHERD-NEAME.CO.UK)

KEY FEATURES OF OUR TENANCY AGREEMENT INCLUDE:

- LOW COST ENTRY  
(AVERAGE £15K - £30K CAPITAL REQUIRED)
- COMPLETE TRAINING PACKAGE
- ONGOING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
AND MARKETING SUPPORT

achievement employability experience development



Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

### Director of Higher Education and International Provision

37 hours per week, salary circa £55,000  
(Closing date: Friday 23 May 2008 at 12 noon. Interview date: 5 June 2008.)

Post Ref: DHEIP

### Lecturer Brickwork

37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Post Ref: L16

### Lecturer Basic Skills for Construction Students

37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Post Ref: 08/68

### Lecturer Public Services

37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Post Ref: 06/92

### HR Manager

37 hours per week, salary circa £45,000

Post Ref: 05/75

### Assessor - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport

37 hrs per week, salary range £17,727 - £25,418 per annum

Post Ref: 08/70

### Trainer Demonstrator - Plumbing

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Post Ref: 08/69

### Trainer Demonstrator - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Post Ref: 08/67

### Trainer Demonstrator - Sport, Leisure, Travel & Tourism

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 04/106

### Senior Nursery Officer - Education and Curriculum

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/71

### Nursery Assistant

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £11,269 per annum

Post Ref: 05/82

### Applications Technician - Advanced

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Post Ref: ATA

### Supply NVQ Assessors required in the following areas:

Various hours available, salary range £17,727 - £25,418 pro rata per annum

### Early Years

Post Ref: NVQ/EY

### Play work

Post Ref: NVQ/PW

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts Tuesday 27 May 2008 at 12 noon.

### Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

100s

more jobs online  
[JobsforKent.co.uk](http://JobsforKent.co.uk)

To advertise in this  
section or online  
01303 817040



## Discover your Potential

Mid-Kent College is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with ambitious plans to build on its excellent reputation.

We are looking for individuals who will encourage learning for life and enhance our existing teams in the following areas:

### Personal Tutor (Full-time, Part-time & Maternity Cover) Grade E: £19,736 - £25,441 pro-rata if part-time

We currently have a number of opportunities for full-time and part-time Personal Tutors, including maternity cover. As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification. When applying, please state clearly your preferred role.

Ref: S01

### Training & Development Co-ordinator Support Grade E: £19,736 to £25,441

You will be responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining the College's training and development practices and procedures. The successful candidate will have strong analytical, communication and report writing skills.

Ref: S02

### PA to Vice Principal - Curriculum Support Grade D: £17,861 to £22,907

An opportunity has arisen to support the Vice Principal of Curriculum in the management of the Divisions through the provision of a comprehensive and efficient secretarial/PA service. Excellent typing and organisational skills are essential. The candidate will be able to demonstrate up-to-date knowledge of MS Office applications and have experience of minute taking and diary management.

Ref: S03

### Experienced Classroom Facilitators Support Grade B: £17,200 pro rata (fixed point)

As a Classroom Facilitator you will support our mainstream learners with learning difficulties/disabilities on their chosen courses. We are looking to recruit experienced Facilitators to work part-time within our Additional Learning Support team and offer flexible term time hours across our College campuses.

Ref: S04

### Customer Relationship Management Administrator Support Grade A: £11,599 to £16,199

We are seeking to recruit an administrator to provide a full administrative service for the Business Development Unit. You will be responsible for producing reports and conducting telemarketing activity. The applicant will be able to demonstrate a good understanding of MS Office applications.

Ref: S05

### Administration Assistant in Hair & Holistic Therapy Support Grade A: £11,599 to £16,199

The candidate will be able to demonstrate recent, all round experience and knowledge of administration procedures and have excellent organisational and IT skills. Due to the nature of the role the successful candidate will be required to work independently and relevant secretarial qualifications would be advantageous.

Ref: S06

All posts are full-time (37 hours per week) unless otherwise stated. The benefits of joining Mid-Kent College include generous annual leave, final salary pension scheme, flexible working opportunities and on-site gym.

The College selection process will reflect our commitment to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and List 99 clearance.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk) quoting the appropriate job title and reference number.

Closing date: Friday, 30 May 2008

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



achievement    employability    experience    development



Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

#### Lecturer Construction - Trowel Occupations and Key Skills

18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/72

#### Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills

18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/73

#### Senior Learning Resources Officer

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Post Ref: 53

#### Academic Support Assistant

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/74

For an application pack please visit [www.cant-col.ac.uk](http://www.cant-col.ac.uk) or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

**The closing date for the above posts Tuesday 27 May 2008 at 12 noon.**

#### Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

## Find teaching jobs online

Register your details  
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The smart way to find  
a job in the County

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## Help us make more of an impact!

### PR/MARKETING EXECUTIVE, CANTERBURY

Impact is an award-winning PR and design consultancy. We are currently looking for a part-time PR/Marketing Executive to support our lead consultant for three days a week. We can offer you challenging client assignments, flexible working, a pleasant office environment and a competitive salary.

You will need to have strong writing, IT and project management skills and be capable of working both on your own initiative and as part of a small team. Experience of publication and web design would be useful. Attention to detail, a confident personality and a commitment to high standards are essential.

Please visit our website at [www.impactprdesign.co.uk](http://www.impactprdesign.co.uk) (news) or call 01227 450022 for more information.

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125 Blean Common, Blean,  
Canterbury CT2 9JH

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## Discover your Potential

Mid-Kent College is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with over 12,000 students and 850 staff.

Currently located at four sites in Maidstone, Chatham and Rochester, this thriving college will open its new £76m campus to students in Medway in September 2009.

We are looking for individuals who will encourage learning for life and enhance our existing teams in the following areas:

### Programme Area Leader - Hair Design Ref: EL1 Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898

We are seeking to recruit an exceptional candidate to provide support to the Head of School on all staffing, student curriculum and quality issues. The post holder will deliver Hair Design programmes to full and part-time students and carry out regular observations of staff for the purpose of appraisal and quality improvement. The candidate must have a recognised teaching qualification and relevant vocational/academic subject qualification.

### Lecturer in Hair Design Ref: EL2 Lecturer Grade B: £25,092 to £28,719

We are seeking to appoint enthusiastic professional to teach, assess and participate in the development of Hair Design programmes. The successful candidate will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part-time students. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

### Acting Programme Area Leader - Plumbing Ref: EL3 Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898

An opportunity has arisen within the Construction & Engineering School for a Lecturer to contribute to the development, management and teaching of Plumbing, Heating and Gas programmes at Mid Kent College, based on our Oakwood Park Campus in Maidstone.

The ideal candidate will have a current knowledge and be able to demonstrate practical experience of the Building Services Industry. In addition, they will have sufficient teaching experience and be educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The candidate must have a recognised teaching qualification; An Advanced Craft Certificate, including Mandatory Awards in Water & Gas and either a D32/34 or A & V Awards.

### Lecturer Motor Vehicle Ref: EL4 Lecturer Grade B/C (depending on qualifications & experience) Salary: Circa £25,000 to £32,000

Due to expansion of our highly successful Automotive provision we are looking to recruit an experienced and highly motivated Lecturer able to teach to all levels (currently Foundation to Level 3) of a range of Mechanical qualifications within our Motor Vehicle department.

Ideally (but not essentially) with some Heavy Vehicle experience, applicants must be able to work flexibly, with a strong team ethic and expect to deliver engaging lessons (both practical and theory) to the highest standard. The department benefits from strong links with Buckmore Park karting circuit (where we run a National Diploma in Motorsport) and has a history of high Success rates across its full-time, part-time and work-based-learning provision.

### Lecturer in Construction Ref: EL5 Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898

The primary role of the successful candidate will be to teach on and participate in the development of construction and related programmes with a particular focus upon Higher/Advanced programmes and Quantity Surveying pathways. The candidate should have the ability to teach across a broad range of subjects, including Measurement, Estimating and Technology. The applicant should hold or be willing to work towards a relevant teaching qualification.

### Lecturer in Biology - Fixed-Term Ref: EL6 Maternity Cover (18.5 hours per week) Lecturer Grade B: £25,092 to £28,719 pro-rata

We are looking for a Lecturer in Biology to teach on and participate in the development of Biology programmes. The successful candidate will deliver a range of courses to students and must hold a relevant degree in Biology.

### Lecturer in Computing & IT Ref: EL7 (22 hours per week) Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898 pro-rata

We are looking to appoint a Lecturer to undertake teaching and tutorial/pastoral functions on the Higher Education programmes - Foundation Degree, HND and HNC. These programmes are delivered at Chatham Maritime in partnership with the University of Kent.

You will work as part of a team making a contribution to relevant programmes of study, including developing courses for revalidation or in response to market need along with preparation, maintenance and sharing of teaching materials. Up-to-date and sound working knowledge of programming, databases, operating systems, applications development, internet design and implementation is required.

All posts are full-time (37 hours per week) unless otherwise stated. The benefits of joining Mid-Kent College include generous annual leave, final salary pension scheme, flexible working opportunities and on-site gym.

The College selection process will reflect our commitment to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults.

Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and List 99 clearance.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk) quoting the appropriate job title and reference number.

**Closing date: Friday, 30 May 2008**

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



## Come and join us

### We are a dynamic team where you can make your mark...

We get results in our state-of-the-art building set in landscaped gardens and can offer a vibrant atmosphere and excellent opportunities to make a difference. We unleash the enthusiasm and expertise of our people and have won The Sunday Times "Best Companies to work for" award three years running. After spectacular growth in 2007, and as the market leader in Holiday Add-ons, (Airport Parking, Hotels and Theatre/Theme Park breaks) we now employ 900 people across the UK & Germany with a turnover in 2008/09 of £170 million.

We are looking for a Product Business Development Manager to grow our Travel Insurance portfolio working within our dynamic B2B team, based at our modern offices in Hythe, Kent.

### Product Business Development Manager

Salary up to £25K (DOE). Plus company benefits

#### Requirements

- Great presentation, numerical and analytical skills
- Enthusiastic, pro active, self motivating and ambitious
- Strong negotiation skills and flexibility
- Brilliant people skills, inspiring top performance
- Seeks challenge, influence and responsibility; is open to and encourages change
- Is fluent and coherent in verbal and written communication
- Previous experience of selling travel insurance desirable
- Willing to travel; clean driving licence

Interested? Then please send your CV and covering letter to Holiday Extras, Newingreen, Hythe, Kent CT21 4JF or to [recruitment@holidayextras.com](mailto:recruitment@holidayextras.com)

Closing Date: 27th May 2008





## 14-19 Strategic Director

Salary Range L15 - L19  
(£50,547 - £55,766)

Start date: negotiable but no later than September 2008

This is a full-time position, initially for a 2-year contract. It presents an exciting opportunity for a secondment or a positive career move into the leadership context of the future. Applications from self-employed consultants are also welcomed.

### Are you

- ambitious, innovative, with the energy and vision to deliver the entitlement to a relevant and engaging curriculum to the full range of our 14-19 learners across West Kent?
- motivational, with the personal belief and enthusiasm to take key people forward with you?

### Our Offer:

- to work with an extensive network of successful and forward-thinking colleagues
- to be at the forefront of educational developments in learning, curriculum and collaboration
- the freedom and opportunity to work independently at a strategic level
- the support of county-wide and local 14-19 co-ordinators and teams.

The West Kent Learning Federation is a network of learning providers consisting of two FE colleges, seventeen secondary schools and two specialist schools. The Federation has ambitious plans for 14-19 curriculum development and collaboration.

For further information and an application pack please contact the PA to the Chair of WKLF, Mrs Jenny Rutherford on 01732 353544 ext 240 or by e-mail at: j.rutherford@hughchristie.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications - Tuesday 27th May



## Housing Administration Officer (Housing Options Team)

37 hours per week  
Salary range £14,625 - £18,285

In Swale, we are committed to tackling the causes of homelessness, and need confident and highly organised problem solvers to help clients keep their homes or, if homelessness is unavoidable, find the best housing solution available. If you enjoy using your own initiative, have a good common sense approach and are looking for a challenge, this role could be for you.

We are looking for an energetic and dynamic individual to join the team to provide administration support to the Housing Options Team and assist them in providing advice services and preventing homelessness amongst applicants. Your role will include maintaining management systems, taking and dealing with enquiries from the general public and ensuring the smooth running of the office. Therefore, excellent communication skills, particularly in the areas of motivation and customer listening will be essential.

You must have good IT skills, strong written skills, be flexible and innovative and enjoy working in a team as well as willing to learn new skills.

In addition to salary, we can offer you a generous annual leave allowance, paid bank holidays, flexi-time and the Local Government final salary pension scheme.

For further information and an application form contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone Sittingbourne (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting reference number 306HO1.

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: http://jobs.swale.gov.uk

Closing Date: 26 May 2008  
Interviews are expected to be held w/c 9 June 2008



## Functional Skills Manager

Starting salary £26,159, with progression through contribution related pay to £29,920 per annum

Countywide - base nearest to home

KEY Training Services deliver an exciting range of innovative training programmes to people aged 14-upwards. As one of the largest work-based training providers in Kent, we offer a wide range of Vocational and Pre-vocational programmes and qualifications supported by a Functional Skills team, from 5 Centres countywide.

A new opportunity has arisen for a Manager to support KEY's Skills for Life Strategy and its operational delivery through the performance management of the Functional Skills Team.

You must demonstrate that you have the skills to manage human and physical resources, curriculum development and also have a good understanding of work-based learning and the government's Skills for Life Strategies.

You need to be Level 4 qualified (or equivalent) in Literacy and/or Numeracy and will have the responsibility for Internal Verification of Key Skills qualifications. Ref: CD/o8/0119

Closing date: Midday, 30 May 2008.

## Education Welfare Officer - Cluster Based Service

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 pro rata

0.8 FTE term time only

Deal and Sandwich Cluster, East Kent - currently based in White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield

Education Welfare Officers work with schools, families and pupils to promote regular school attendance. The work is challenging and requires the ability to work independently as well as being a good team member. You will receive in service training, regular supervision, and support in your work with schools, pupils, their families and other agencies.

You will need the ability to travel as visiting schools and homes etc is essential to the role. Essential car user allowance is payable.

Ref: CFE/o8/0201

Closing date: Midday, 2 June 2008.

These posts are subject to a Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs)

Alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk) or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote the relevant reference number.



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## Early Years Foundation Stage Consultant

Starting salary £29,920, with progression through contribution related pay to £35,370 per annum

1 x East Kent, 1 x Mid Kent and 1 x West Kent

We wish to appoint three Foundation Stage Consultants to join our unit which focuses on enhancing the quality of care, learning and play in the early years across Kent.

Working as part of an area team, the post holders will be responsible for:

- Providing guidance to pre-school early years and child care providers and settings in supporting their own processes of self review to raise standards
- Providing training that meets the needs of settings and practitioners and also meets the targets for the local authority in respect of the Kent Early Years Improvement Plan and national requirements
- Challenging and supporting settings in achieving improved OFSTED outcomes and accreditation through the Kent Quality Standards Scheme
- Developing and maintaining an area of specialism within the team to contribute to the improvement of provision and standards in the area/region
- Contributing to the development of consistency of entitlement across the county

We offer excellent professional development opportunities and travel costs will be met.

The ability to travel countywide is essential to the post.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

For an informal discussion, please contact Colleen Marin, Senior Adviser, EYCC on 01233 898722.

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs) alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk) or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference: CFE/o8/0127.

Closing date: Midday 30th May 2008.

Interviews for these positions will take place on 19th June 2008.



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Proficiency in the use of MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and Outlook software is a prerequisite, as is a high attention to detail, excellent and persuasive oral and written communication skills (spelling, grammar, professional presentation), experience in digital image capture/editing, a sound knowledge/interest in cars and a great sense of humour!

Please email your application & CV to: [patrick.s@premierautocentres.com](mailto:patrick.s@premierautocentres.com)

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184-214 Blackfen Road,  
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## NVQ Manager

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You will be an integral part of a considerably managed care team, supporting people at home so they can live independently.

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To apply, call 01227 373 292 to request an application pack or e-mail: recruitment@strodepark.org.uk

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**Applications will only be accepted on the application forms and must be returned to us by Friday 23rd May 2008**

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**Required for September 2008:**

### **Instrumental Instructors (Music)**

to support the Music Department in the delivery of tuition in the following areas:

- Drum Kit/Drumset • Piano • Guitar
- Woodwind (Flute, saxophone, clarinet) • Brass (trumpet/cornet and/or trombone)

Applications are welcome from graduates of Music or Music Education, and from candidates who hold other professional qualifications in music.

An Application pack and further details are available from the Head Teachers PA (Mrs Bowditch)

**Closing date for applications: 10am on Friday 13th June 2008**



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2/3 days per week

Salary based on Teachers Pay and Conditions  
Commencing September 2008

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You will be responsible for the co-ordination and development of some after school activities, out of school hours learning, inter & intra school competition and local community links.

You will also have a responsibility for supporting Physical Development within the Academy and throughout the Sports partnership.

This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

To apply please submit a letter of application and CV quoting ref 05/03 by email to:  
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## Caretaker required

Culverstone Green Primary School,  
Wrotham Road, Culverstone,  
Meopham, Kent. Tel: 01732 822568  
Head Teacher: Mrs Ruth Abbott

Start date: 15th June 2008  
Closing date: 30th May 2008  
Interviews: 3rd June 2008

Salary: Kent Scheme 7-12  
£13,959 - £16,057 per annum pro rata  
32 1/2 hours per week - split shift - 52 weeks per year. 24 days holiday per year

We are seeking to appoint a caretaker to carry out duties including acting as keyholder, some cleaning, general repairs, maintenance of swimming pool, crossing patrol etc. For further information and to request an application form, please contact the school. Appointment will be subject to police checks and references. Visits to the school are encouraged (by appointment only).

**Cleaner also required 2 hours per day.**

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Ready to build an exciting career in direct marketing and marketing intelligence? Then you're ready to talk to us. Please write enclosing your CV and salary expectations to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior Group HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, The Saga Building, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk

Closing date: 6 June 2008. Please quote reference: SG207/KOS.

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## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### **KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising materials of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsolicited material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser when applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertiser will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full page even after shrinkage.
9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertising rate card (effective July 2007-June 2008) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2007-June 2008) and will reflect the revised level of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the cancellation of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2007-June 2008). Discounts will be applied and any refunds or surcharges will be met in full by the advertiser within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of the TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at the standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the advertiser agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
18. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
19. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
20. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice. Time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.  
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract.  
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.  
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd for whatever reason, the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.  
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.  
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
21. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
22. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
23. All private advertisement and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
24. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners due to the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
25. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
26. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from March 2008

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with Business Editor  
**TONY PATEY**

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Play the field when looking for finance

APPROACHING your bank is not necessarily the best strategy when you need finance. It makes better sense to see what the whole market is offering before you make a decision on a key move.

CFS, and independent commercial finance broker, based in Dover and Maidstone, says businesses need to search for the right package with lending is not limited to the high street lenders.

The market continues to grow with new lenders providing new services, some only available through the intermediary market. Principals Marcus Abbott and Andrew Craddock, who between them have 50 years' experience as commercial bankers, say that businesses need to take expert advice.

### Online health check on offer to firms

BOSSSES can now check the health of their businesses with the help of a free online guide. Business Link's health check tool, available at [www.businesslink.gov.uk/southeast/healthcheck](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/southeast/healthcheck), can help companies analyse their finance and administration systems.

Business Link's Richard Green said: "Identifying and tackling any problems early on can markedly increase the chances of success. A few minutes online could be critical to the health and life of an organisation."

### The rogues' gallery

ROGUE traders now have nowhere to hide. A new customer review directory launched this week highlights best practice and exposes the worst UK companies via customer feedback and credit ratings.

BView offers a web presence to every UK business, free credit ratings of more than 1.5 million companies and provides unbiased searches which enable the customer to decide how their results are returned.

There are 78,922 Kent companies with preloaded BView business profiles and businesses not on the site can join voluntarily. Visit [www.bview.co.uk](http://www.bview.co.uk).

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How business at Paddock Wood Hop Farm has been transformed

# Protection from bad debts could save your firm

BAD debts are on the rise – with the number of judgments against businesses hitting a six-year high, latest figures show.

Independent commercial finance company IGF is urging small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to consider bad-debt protection to hedge against the increase in bad business debts.

The problem was highlighted recently by the Registry Trust, a not-for-profit company which collects and distributes court judgment information in the public interest throughout the UK.

It said there was a marked increase in bad debt judgments against businesses in 2007. The rise of four per cent to 185,395 took the number of judgments to the highest level since 2001.

Malcolm Hurlston, the chairman of Registry Trust, said: "The next 12 months should be interesting."

"I certainly expect the upward trend in commercial judgments to continue in 2008 which promises to be a tough year for British businesses, especially in the small and medium-sized enterprise sector, against which most commercial judgments are made."

IGF, which is based at Kings Hill, West Malling, said it can, for example, offer a bad-debt protection facility to both factoring and invoice discounting clients' and will be worked out to the needs of individual businesses.

Businesses going for bad-debt protection can get protection for up to 90 per cent of any loss suffered by reason of the failure of a debtor to pay, owing to insolvency or just not paying.

IGF's managing director Tracy Ewen, said: "No one likes unforeseen bad debt, and for SMEs and start-ups, it could seriously jeopardise the survival of their businesses."



**CASH FLOW:** Managing director Tracy Ewen of Kings Hill-based IGF, which can offer bad-debt protection

"Nothing is more frustrating than running into difficulties with cash flow through no fault of your own. With proper protection, if a customer does fail to pay through insolvency or protracted default, the outstanding debts will be settled."

IGF is an independently managed commercial finance company specialising in the small and medium-sized business market, especially companies from new start-up to £10 million turnover a year.

Part of the Greater London Enterprise Group of Companies, an economic development and investment company owned by the London Boroughs, IGF was established in 1997. For more information go to [www.igf-group.com](http://www.igf-group.com).



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Picture: ADY KERRY



DECISIVE: Yasir Arafat bowled Kent to victory against the Essex Eagles

## Eagles plucked by Arafat spell

### CRICKET

A SUPERB opening spell from Yasir Arafat helped Kent Spitfires comfortably beat Essex Eagles at Chelmsford on Friday for their fourth successive win in the Friends Provident Trophy.

The Pakistan all-rounder took 4-29 to rip through the hosts' top order. Essex, who set a club record 391-5 in their previous game against Surrey, never recovered and stumbled to 124 all out in the 26th over.

Earlier, South African all-rounder Justin Kemp continued his good form with a half century. Kent batted patiently on a difficult wicket to reach 230-7 from their allocation.

The 106-run victory, their fifth successive triumph in all competitions, sent Rob Key's men top of the

South/East group. Kent got away to good start after winning the toss as opening pair Joe Denly and Rob Key put on 62 for the first wicket.

Graham Napier removed Denly and Martin van Jaarsveld in successive balls to dent the visitors' progress, but Kemp provided the backbone with a measured innings.

The big-hitting South African struck just three boundaries in his knock of 51.

Darren Stevens (17), Geraint Jones (23) and Azhar Mahmood (15) all made contributions before James

Tredwell and Arafat combined for a quick partnership in the closing overs.

In reply, the Eagles stuttered almost immediately as Arafat dismissed the dangerous Mark Pettini, who smashed 144 at The Oval five days earlier, for just one run.

Ravi Bopara, who scored 99 against Kent in the first game of the competition, then fell first ball to Arafat as Essex were reduced to 9-2.

After a flurry of boundaries from Jason Gallian, the Spitfires struck the decisive blow. Five wickets fell for 26 runs to leave the Eagles in deep trouble on 61-7.

Some resistance followed but it fell well short of the miracle Essex needed to pull off an unlikely win.

## Relegated Crofts is still in Wales squad

RELEGATION with Gillingham has not dented Andrew Crofts' international chances, with the midfielder included in the latest Wales squad.

The 23-year-old is in John Toshack's 35-man squad for away games against Iceland and the Netherlands, on May 28 and June 1 respectively.

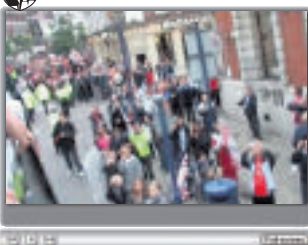
There had been fears the Gills captain would look for a move after the club sank into League Two so he could maintain his place in the Wales squad.

Crofts has won ten senior caps, with his most recent appearance coming as a substitute against Norway in February.

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Ebbsfleet fans line the streets to welcome home their Wembley heroes

## Ipswich in summer visit to Priestfield

IPSWICH Town are the highlight of Gillingham's pre-season fixtures after the club announced the team's itinerary.

Gills will play an Ipswich XI at Priestfield on July 23 as Mark Stimson prepares his side for life in League Two.

The other five fixtures are against non-league sides from Kent and Essex, including a return to Stimson's old club, Grays Athletic.

Programme in full: Faversham Town, away, Thursday, July 17; Grays Athletic, away, Saturday, July 19; Ipswich Town XI, home, Wednesday, July 23; Folkestone Invicta, away, Saturday, July 26; Dover Athletic, away, Tuesday, July 29; Thurrock, away, Saturday, August 2.

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# Stevens' quickfire ton sees off Brown Caps

### CRICKET

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

KENT Spitfires moved a step closer to the quarter-finals of the Friends Provident Trophy after a nail-biting 17-run victory over the Surrey Brown Caps.

Short boundaries at the St Lawrence Ground made for a high-scoring game in which more than 650 runs were racked up.

Mark Butcher's highest one-day score was not enough for Surrey as Kent's bowlers held their nerve with some disciplined bowling at the death to win a thriller at Canterbury on Sunday.

The former England batsman struck a brisk 139 to set Surrey up for a memorable victory, but Azhar Mahmood took four late wickets to hand Kent victory.

Earlier, Martin van Jaarsveld and Darren Stevens hit centuries in a partnership of 216 to give the Spitfires hope of a fifth successive win in the competition.

A flat wicket and benign conditions made the game a batsman's paradise in which bowlers had to work hard for their wickets.

Surrey won the toss and opted to field, but could not find a breakthrough under the early cloud cover. Openers Rob Key and Joe Denly batted well before the former flicked Chris Jordan's first delivery to Mark Ramprakash midway to the boundary.

Denly looked set for a half century but lost his middle stump to Jordan on 46.

The bowler took his third wicket when South African Justin Kemp went for six to leave Kent on 121-3.

The all-rounder's departure brought van Jaarsveld and Stevens together and the pair worked well to keep the score ticking over.

With the overs running out and seven wickets still in hand, Stevens took the initiative to accelerate the scoring.

Ablely supported by van Jaarsveld, he put on 147 from the last 12 overs. Stevens' century came from just 67 balls and van Jaarsveld scored his runs from 108 balls.

Stevens finished unbeaten on 119, while van Jaarsveld hit 113.

The Brown Caps needed almost seven runs an over in their reply, but Butcher kept the scoring rate going with some fluent strokes.

Boosted by an attacking Usman Afzaal,



BACK TO BASICS: Darren Stevens made a welcome return to form with an unbeaten century against the Brown Caps

Surrey needed 48 off the last seven overs to win, with seven wickets remaining.

But as the game appeared to be slipping away from the Spitfires, all-rounder Ryan McLaren removed Butcher.

Mahmood and Yasir Arafat were then brought into the attack and took the last six wickets in the final five overs to turn the tide in Kent's favour.

The Spitfires' fifth successive win in the competition almost guarantees them a place in the quarter-finals. They can make sure by avoiding defeat against Middlesex on Monday.

Kent play Somerset today in the first day of Tunbridge Wells cricket week. Rob Key's side take on a Somerset team led by Australian Justin Langer, looking to progress in the county championship.

Picture: ADY KERRY



# Sodje expected to make move to Bury

GILLINGHAM are looking into the possibility of cancelling Efe Sodje's contract to allow the unsettled defender to leave the club.

The 35-year-old joined the Gills on a two-year deal last summer but only made 12 league starts. He spent almost three months out after fracturing an eye socket in November and could not force his way back into the side when he returned to fitness.

The former Nigerian international joined Bury on loan in February and was an instant hit in League Two.

Sodje was recently quoted saying he would like to join the Shakers on a permanent basis but it depended on what happened when he returned to Gills.

Now Priestfield boss Mark Stimson (pictured left) is trying to end Sodje's contract a year early to allow him to leave the club. He told

## FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Yourmedway: "In an ideal world it would be great if we could come to some agreement. The chairman is trying to see if we could cancel Efe's contract because he is not in my plans for next season."

While Sodje is unlikely to be among the squad returning for pre-season training in July, a group of players have begun training at the club to stay in shape during the break.

Four players have been going through sessions with fitness coach Danny Ellis at the club's Beechings Way training ground.

Stimson is delighted with the attitude of the players who are doing the extra training.

He said: "It's very encouraging. They are doing it because they have listened to what we have told them and they want to improve."

"It's not about impressing me but what these players are going through now is only going to help them."

"Someone who is 20 doesn't need the same amount of rest as a 30-year-old, the same as if you have played 20 games last season or 40."



EXIT? Efe Sodje could leave the Gills this summer to join fellow League Two side Bury

Picture: KETH SLATER

yourmedway

SPORT IN BRIEF



Picture: ADRIAN LANE

**DERBY LOSS:** Chatham (in blue) will not meet local rivals Sittingbourne in the league next season

## Chats rue loss of Kent derby days

CHATHAM Town will return to the Ryman Division One North next season after the divisions were restructured by the FA.

Following the end of season promotion and relegation shake-up, the Ryman South was larger than the 22 teams permitted.

As a result two teams – Chatham and newly-promoted Kent champions Thamesmead Town – have been moved into the Ryman North.

The clubs were selected for geographical reasons. It is a familiar situation for the Chats, who were playing in the north division two seasons ago.

The biggest loss for fans is the absence of league derby matches against Kent clubs Sittingbourne, Ashford and Whitstable.

Chats' nearest league games next season are against Thamesmead Town, East Thurrock United and Tilbury.

Average attendances in the Ryman North were 41 lower per game than in the Ryman South last season, so the move could have an impact on gates at Maidstone Road.

Despite this, Chats chairman Jeff Talbot is not concerned about the move.

He said: "The downside is we miss the relationship with the other Kent clubs, but on the other hand there are clubs we haven't played so there's an opportunity to build new relationships."

"If we were to have a good run in one of the cup competitions and drew a big club, then that one game could dwarf our gate receipts for the rest of the season."

Manager Steve Binks admitted he would miss the derby matches against other Kent sides. He said: "We will be meeting sides we have not played against before so I am looking forward to that. But it's disappointing to lose the derby games, especially Sittingbourne, our main local rivals."

## Hernan's penalty save ends season on a high

### HOCKEY

HOLCOMBE goalkeeper Jo Hernan returned to haunt her former side by making the crucial save in a penalty shoot-out as Maidstone were beaten in the Kent Cup final.

Second choice since joining Holcombe last summer, Hernan stepped up after Jackie Gray was injured in training last week.

After the game finished 2-2, the final was decided by penalty flicks and after Holcombe scored four out of five, Hernan made the match-winning stop.

It was the first time Holcombe had won the trophy and completed a successful season for the side. The team cruised to the East Women's Premier title earlier in the season, but were denied promotion in a one-off play-off tournament due to league restructuring.

Holcombe coach Mike Haines said: "We're really pleased. Winning the league was awesome and then we had the disappointment in the play-offs, so this is a great way to finish the season."

"We haven't really practised penalty flicks as much as we



Picture: ION KUPCO

**DOUBLE:** Holcombe have added the Kent Cup to their league title

should but the experience of the five penalty takers and Jo's saves got us through."

Despite playing a division below their opponents, Holcombe dominated the first half. Goals from Marlisse Joubert and Jennie Hoyte deservedly put them in charge at the break.

Maidstone improved in the second half and pulled a goal back. Yellow cards saw Holcombe reduced to nine players and Maidstone took advantage by levelling with three minutes remaining.

It set up the penalties, where Hernan proved the difference.

## Cullip's contract demands are too much for Stimson

### FOOTBALL

GILLINGHAM boss Mark Stimson admits he is at a loss to explain why Danny Cullip changed his contract demands at the last minute, but believes the squad is strong enough to cope without him.

The 31-year-old left the club last week after failing to agree terms on a new deal, despite negotiating a one-year contract more than two months ago.

When the deal came to be signed earlier this month the defender asked for another year.

Stimson came back with an extended contract but it was dependent on him playing a minimum number of games, which the defender rejected.

Stimson said he bore no grudge against Cullip, who left the club on good terms, but admitted he was surprised by the decision.

He said: "Why he asked for the extra year I don't know. On the one hand I can understand what he did but also I can't, because why didn't he ask for that at the start? I would not go back in and change my terms, but everyone is different."

As Cullip was leaving



Picture: KETH SLATER

**QUIT:** Danny Cullip left the Gills after refusing a new contract

Priestfield, Gills were closing in on their first signing of the summer.

Stevenage Borough goalkeeper Alan Julian had talks at Priestfield and could become the fifth player Stimson has signed from his old club.

The Gills boss said: "He's definitely someone with potential. For the last three years he's been the best goalkeeper outside the Football League."

The club needs goalkeeping cover after Derek Stillie's retirement and Kelvin Jack's release earlier this month.

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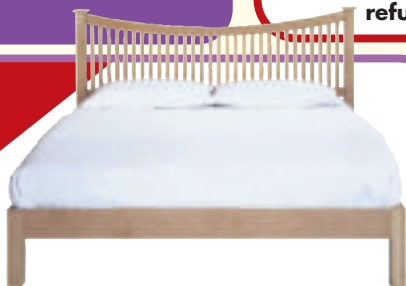
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